FBIS DAILY REPORT
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ARMY RELEASES REPORT ON FALKLANDS CONFLICT

PY021727 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1515 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Dec (NA) -- Releasing the report on the South Atlantic war, the Argentine Army today officially admitted that "it did not have any combat experience in a classical war, that it did not have knowledge of island operations, and that it had never trained either the cadres or the units for this type of operation."

"The Argentine Army cadres and troops were never oganized, equipped, or instructed to face an enemy trained to undertake operations at a world level," the report states in explaining further causes which affected the "strategic operations" the Army had to carry out.

The Army also admits that strategy was affected by "the secrecy imposed on the initial operation by the Army General Staff, separate from any operational and logistical planning." The document admits that "in some cases improvisation existed" in the enlistment and deployment of forces.

It adds that the planning of actions was also affected by urgently assigning to the theater of operations troops with less capability to operate in the geographic conditions found in the Malvinas Islands, while the rangers with special training for operations under weather conditions similar to those on the islands were left on continental territory. The document adds that "the Argentine soldiers lacked training and the equipment necessary to fight under the geographic conditions of the Malvinas Islands" and that "their training and equipment were only for operations in plain country or for actions with motorized elements."

The evaluations of the Calvi report, which was distributed today at the end of a press conference given at Army headquarters, appear in the third section of the first volume under the title "Main Factors That Influenced the Planning and Development of the Land Operations."

Analyzing joint operations, the report openly admits that "the lack among our Armed Forces of suitable integration and a habit of working together, qualities which show themselves in the planning and execution of operations, adversely affected the actions of the ground component." It says" "To this should be added the qualitative and quantitative inferiority of the technical means available, particularly for night combat." It also admits that the Army suffered from "important structural failures" affecting "its combat capacity." Among those it mentions:

-- The need to use units not suitable for this type of ground for reasons of urgency;

-- Units were incomplete because of the British blockade;

-- A certain percentage of personnel did not belong to the unit to which they were assigned at the beginning of the operation and they did not have the necessary time to become integrated into the unit;

-- It became necessary to operate with units which were taken by surprise in the middle of the basic training period for the new recruits of the year.

Regarding the British forces, the Calvi report recognizes their general superiority over the Argentines. It says that Great Britain showed naval superiority, which allowed it "total control of the sea."

As for Great Britain's air superiority, the Calvi report says that "it had a real bearing on the Army's tactical situation." It says that this situation "gave the enemy a greater tactical mobility, enabling it to carry out land operations both at day and night, to give logistic support to them, and to carry out successful and very well coordinated actions to mislead the enemy regarding its main operations."

The document stresses: "This capacity of the adversary, supported by the most costly and advanced technology of the world, constantly hampered our own leadership from taking the initiative, as well as from deploying troops with the necessary speed, number, and timeliness."

The last pages of the first volume of the Calvi report contain what is called a "Final Reflection." In this chapter it is admitted that the outcome of the conflict was "the natural result" of various areas in which the British showed their superiority, and it is recognized that the defeat also came about because of "the capacity of the British tactical commands and the courage and training of their troops."

It says that the battles and the Argentine defeat "do not leave any stain whatever on military honor." "This study contains numerous and heroic acts of extraordinary valor in the field committed by soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and officers who, acting beyond the call of duty, gave examples of the best traditions of our Army: initiative, imagination, devotion to their country, and, above all, courage -- the virtue which is natural in the military profession."

The last paragraph of the Calvi report urges that "the will of our dead, the memory of their mandate, and the fervent and repeated prayer of "Long Live the Fatherland!" should be the beacons guiding our spirit and the course of our daily work toward the promising future of our institution and of our country."

POLICE WARN OF RADIOACTIVE DISCHARGE AT FACILITY

PY050045 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0030 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Dec (NA) -- The police today alerted neighbors of the Constituyentes nuclear facility, which is located in Buenos Aires, about a possible "discharge of radioactive" material. However, authorities of the nuclear plant said this is a "false alarm."

Asked by NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, an officer of the 49th police precinct noted that neighbors have indeed been alerted about a "discharge of radioactive" material, but he did not provide any details in this regard. However, a guard at the nuclear facility, which is located in the northeastern sector of Buenos Aires, said that it was a false alarm.

OFFICIAL MISSION TO ATTEND ALFONSIN INAUGURATION

PY030154 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Acting Foreign Minister Lieutenant General Sergio Covarrubias has reported that Miguel Schweitzer, the president of the Council of State, will travel to Argentina to attend the presidential inauguration on behalf of the Chilean Government.

[Begin Covarrubias recording] The delegation that will attend the Argentine presidential inauguration will be presided over by Miguel Schweitzer, the president of the Council of State, and his wife. The delegation will also include our charge d'affairs in Buenos Aires. The president gave the necessary instructions yesterday afternoon. The delegation is scheduled to travel on the afternoon of 8 December. [end recording]

Covarrubias made the announcement at the conclusion of a ceremony marking the 112th anniversary of the Foreign Ministry. The ceremony was held at Chile's Diplomatic Academy.

ZALDIVAR UNABLE TO ATTEND ALFONSIN INAUGURATION

PY031154 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Andres Zaldivar, president of the World Union of Christian Democrats, will not attend Argentine President [-elect] Raul Alfonsin's inauguration. Zaldivar said that he will not be able to attend the ceremony, scheduled for 10 December, because the annual congress of the World Union of Christian Democrats will begin a day later in Chile. Representatives of many nations throughout the world will attend this congress. Andres Zaldivar was officially invited to attend Alfonsin's inauguration.

THAI PAPER CITES FOREIGN MINISTER ON PROTESTS

BK030407 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 3 Dec 83 p 6

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer said yesterday that press reports of political unrest in Chile had been grossly exaggerated and that, in fact, the situation there was quite normal. "There is an opposition of course, and like any opposition in any country, they do try to make themselves heard in the loudest way they can. But reporting about what has been going on in Chile has been grossly exaggerated," he said.

Schweitzer was talking to reporters during a press conference on the second day of his three-day official visit here. Citing as an example of incidents in Chile which, he said, had been exaggerated by the press, Schweitzer said that a political demonstration which took place in Santiago last month was reported to have involved more than a million people, when in fact, there were only 60 to 80 thousand demonstrators. He said that the reason political opposition in Chile was more evident now than in previous years was because of the recent economic decline of the country.

During his visit here, Schweitzer and his five-man delegation of government officials, as well as representatives of the private sector, met with their Thai counterparts to discuss possibilities of trade and other exchanges between the two countries. Schweitzer and his delegation will leave today for home.

AD PRESIDENT SPEAKS AT VALPARAISO RALLY

PY031140 Paris AFP in Spanish 1337 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Valparaiso, 2 Dec (AFP) -- Ricardo Lagos, president of the Democratic Alliance [AD], has warned that the provisional government which the opposition wants to establish in Chile will not recognize the commitments signed by the military regime for the payment of the foreign debts of private enterprises. Speaking to a huge rally at Valparaiso, 140 km east of Santiago, the socialist leader of the multiparty coalition stated that the immediate goal of the opposition is the resignation of President Augusto Pinochet after 10 years of authoritarian rule.

In his first public address as leader of the AD, Lagos said that bringing the regime to an end is the first task so that, afterwards, a strong and effective democracy can be built, one in which the rules are made and respected by all.

At the end of the rally held last Thursday night, an undetermined number of persons were arrested when thousands of demonstrators tried to march through the streets of Valparaiso shouting antigovernment slogans. The police used teargas bombs and water cannons to contain a crowd made up mostly of young people who raised barricades and lit fires to confront the policemen.

Lagos, a 45-year old lawyer and economist, said in his speech that a future provisional government should reconsider the agreements signed by the current administration last April with more than 600 U.S., European, and Japanese banks for the payment of the foreign debt. Those agreements will be revised, Lagos added, because we will not accept the Chilean people's having to pay for the private sector's wasteful expenditures. Three-fourths of Chile's foreign debt, officially estimated at $20 billion, has been contracted by private banks, industry, and commerce with the guarantee of the state.

According to the AD, which is made up of the Republican Right, the Christian Democrats, the Social Democrats, the Radicals, and the Socialists, amortization and interest payments on the foreign debt surpass $30 billion, and the guarantee extended by the state to private enterprises is unconstitutional.

The rally at Valparaiso was the second one promoted by the AD after the rally held in Santiago on 18 November with the participation of more than half a million people.

REPORTAGE ON JAIME BET'NCUR'S KIDNAPPING

ELN Issues Second Communique

PA021204 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1845 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota, 1 Dec (DPA) -- The command of the so-called "Army of National Liberation" (ELN), which kidnapped state Councilman Jaime Betancur Cuartas, brother of the president of Colombia, 10 days ago, today reported that it will not insist on its initial demands, and announced that he will be released on 7 December, following the peace march throughout Colombia.

The members of the leftist group sent a communique to the newspaper EL BOGOTANO at dawn today, in which it revealed the decision to drop its initial demands. Yesterday the ELN had announced that if the Colombian Government did not accept its demands, the group would execute Betancur on 10 December, but apparently national and international repudiation of the terrorist act made the kidnappers change their minds. The communique was accompanied by several photos showing Magistrate Betancur Cuartas inside a tent, playing parcheesi with his captors.

The following is the text of the communique sent to EL BOGOTANO:

"The Army of National Liberation (ELN) wishes to inform the Colombian people that:

"1. Doctor Jaime Betancur Cuartas is in good physical and mental condition, as shown in the attached photos.

"2. This is in contrast to the treatment afforded by the Armed Forces to the revolutionaries and the people, who disappear and who are tortured and murdered. We account for our political prisoners, to whom we afford the most humane treatment. Why don't you do the same, Mr President? Why don't you account for the 200 missing persons, which constitute a shame to our fatherland, as expressed by Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla himself?

"3. As we said in our first communique, our purpose is to have the president of the Republic fulfill his promise to the Colombian people, because the exploited classes will no longer endure so many farces and so much lying. We have already reaped the first fruits: The transporters suspended the strike demanding urban transportation fare hikes because they fear the popular rage we represent.

"4. We are not asking the president to violate the national Constitution; on the contrary, we want him to comply with its precepts. Isn't it constitutional to raise the workers' minimum wage, to reduce the public service tariffs, to avoid excessive price increases for staples, to dismantle the bands of killers protected by the Armed Force, and to provide the needy with health and education? Failure to fulfill the mandate of the people, which is the foundation of democracy, would be unconstitutional.

"5. The silence of the president concerning our requests reveals his true nature, and shows the Colombian people that their ruler speaks in the name of the humble, but acts in favor of the privileged.

"6. All rejections of our action, with some perfectly understandable exceptions, not only come from the ruling classes, the false revolutionaries, the usurpers of the workers' rights and interests, but are, as expressed by Doctor Jaime Betancur Cuartas himself, strictly for protocol purposes.

"7. The people, the broad masses, those who once believed in Belisario Betancur's promises, agree with our demands.

"8. It is also true that the peace march scheduled for 7 December is programmed by the same leaders who betray the people, and that the traditional parties lead the action, but say nothing concerning our demands, which are felt by the people.

"9. Meanwhile, the people, who have the last word, are already marching to protest the abuse of power.

"10. Therefore, we will join the peace march of 7 December, and we abide by the verdict thus expressed by the people, the sole owners of their historic destiny, because we truly believe in the people and put ourselves in the position of spokesmen for their rights and interests.

"In place of the demands put forth in the first communique for the release of Dr Jaime Betancur Cuartas, we propose:

"A. That the government allow the Colombian people to march on 7 December, so that the people can express themselves concerning the decalogue of the ELN's proposed demands.

"B. That the major media sources continue inviting people and groups to participate in the peace march.

"If this is done, on that date, 7 December, after the massive march, the Army of National Liberation will return Dr Jaime Betancur Cuartas safe and sound to his home. If the government opposes this march, however, we will be forced to modify our demands."

The extremists' pronouncement has been greeted with great satisfaction by various sectors of Colombian society which have repudiated the ELN action and voiced their solidarity with the government.

ELN Reverts to Original Demands

PA031845 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota -- The members of the Army of National Liberation [ELN] who are holding Magistrate Jaime Betancur Cuartas, brother of President Belisario Betancur, today sent a third communique to the Bogota newspaper EL BOGOTANO in which they surprisingly announce that they no longer support the march for peace to be held at 1200 on Wednesday. In addition to the communique, the ELN sent a handwritten note from Jaime Betancur, who stated that his captors have treated him well and have told him they will respect his life. The note also says that he is being held as a political prisoner and his health is satisfactory.

The ELN members said that they are reiterating the demands of their first communique. In other words, the government must comply with the 10 points included in the first communique. They also said that talks in this regard will continue through the negotiating commission. Until today's ELN message mentioning a negotiating commission in the case of Jaime Betancur Cuartas' kidnapping, nothing had been known about such a commission.

J. Betancur Denies 3d Communique

PA040310 Paris AFP in Spanish 0214 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota, 3 Dec (AFP) -- Magistrate Jaime Betancur, who was kidnapped by the Castroite guerrilla group called the Army of National Liberation, ELN, today said that he has been treated well, within the limitations of his captivity.

Betancur, who is Colombian President Belisario Betancur's brother and who was kidnapped on 22 November, said this in a message that was sent to the media in Bogota tonight by the guerrilla group.

The ELN, which has offered to release Betancur if the government authorizes a silent march for peace next Wednesday at 1700 GMT, released a bulletin today which included a handwritten message from Betancur:

"The Army of National Liberation, ELN, which holds me captive, has respected my personal integrity and has not threatened my life, I have not been told that I am a political prisoner, and within the limitations of my captivity, I have been treated well," Betancur asserted. The 53-year-old hostage added that those who have kidnapped him denied issuing a communique in which they allegedly threatened to execute him on 10 December if the government does not meet their 10 demands.

"I have been told that the real communiques are Nos 1 and 2, that there are no others, and that the organization has not issued the communique that establishes a deadline and threatens my life " Betancur's handwritten message ends.

FARC Requests Betancur's Release

PA022006 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The guerrilla Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] has asked for the release of Jaime Betancur, a State Council member and brother of Colombian President Belisario Betancur. The request was made to the Army of the National Liberation [ELN] group that kidnapped Jaime Betancur. In a communique in Bogota, the urban front of the FARC issued a respectful and revolutionary request to the ELN to take a small and honorable step back and release Jaime Betancur safe and sound.

Today, all of Bogota's newspapers published the text of the second message that Cuban leader Fidel Castro sent Belisario Betancur regarding his brother's kidnapping. On its part, the Colombian branch of the Movement of Latin American Unity [Movimiento de Unidad Latinoamericana] has sent a telegram to Fidel Castro, praising his position on Jaime Betancur's kidnapping.

FARC, MAS Urge Release

PA021928 Paris AFP in Spanish 1545 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota, 2 Dec (AFP) -- The Communist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) has asked the pro-Castro National Liberation Army (ELN) to free Jaime Betancur, President Belisario Betancur's brother.

The FARC said: "With the utmost respect that must exist between guerrilla organizations, we beg you to free the captive." They also encouraged the ELN to take "an honorable step backward" and release 53-year-old Betancur safe and sound. Betancur was kidnapped in Bogota on 22 November. In the message the FARC also proposed the creation of a united front for the Colombian revolutionary struggle.

The ELN has already announced it will free Betancur on Wednesday, 7 December, if the government will allow a silent march for peace in Colombia to take place at 1700 GMT that day.

For its part, the sinister clandestine group MAS (Death to Kidnappers) joined the avalanche of protests in the wake of the magistrate's kidnapping. The MAS, which appeared in December 1981 and is accused by the guerrillas of being a paramilitary group, today delivered a bulletin to the media in Pereira, 400 km west of Bogota, condemning the incident. The document -- the first of its kind from the MAS -- demanded the immediate released of Betancur. The MAS accused those who kidnapped Betancur of trying to undermine the Colombian democratic system and stressed the hostage's honesty.

Armed Forces Condemn Kidnapping

PA021747 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Letter from the Colombian military and police forces to Colombian President Belisario Betancur; issued in Bogota on 1 December]

[Text] Colombian President Dr Belisario Betancur Cuartas:

In these hours of deep national consternation, when democracy has been offended, and the Colombian people, without exception, repudiate the cowardly and unjust outrage perpetrated against Dr Jaime Betancur Cuartas, the national defense minister, the commander in chief of the military forces, the chief of the General Staff, the commanders of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and the director general of the National Police unite as one, and on behalf of the members of all the military and police forces, express to the president of the Republic their deep solidarity.

The Armed Forces also join in the rejection that the country, deeply wounded, has expressed in a single voice regarding this unspeakable action against one of Colombia's most respected citizens, an attack on one of our country's greatest figures.

Encouraged by our feelings, we reiterate to the president the Armed Forces' unyielding determination to fulfill its sacred constitutional duty to guarantee the exercise of law and the freedom and peace of our compatriots. We formally promise to move forward in our battle against subversion so that peace will be established in Colombia, thwarting the enemies of law and order in their attempt to bring slavery to our people under the teachings of the dictatorship of the proletariat, which our people reject and whose establishment we have the duty to prevent.

Mr President, we ask God for Dr Jaime Betancur Cuartas' prompt return to his home, and we would be grateful if you would convey our feelings to your wife and other members of your esteemed family.

[Signed] Defense Minister General Fernando Landazabal Reyes; Air Force Commander General Angel M. Gomez Jauregui, acting commander in chief of the military forces; Major General Bernardo Lema Henao, chief of the Joint General Staff; Brigadier General Guillermo Jaramillo Berrio, commander of the Army; Vice Admiral Tito Garcia Motta, commander of the Navy; and General Victor Delgado Mallarino, director general of the National Police.

Demonstrations; Pope's Message

PA031247 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota -- Government Minister Alfonso Gomez and National Defense Minister Fernando Landazabal Reyes today presided over a banquet for peace in Puerto Berrio, Antioquia. Farmers, cattlemen, peasants, and in general, residents of a wide sector of Middle Magdalena and several members of the Peace Commission were present at the event.

This will be a [word indistinct] ceremony, in which prayers will be offered for peace in the country, and people of goodwill will express their repudiation of violence. This demonstration of the people's cry for realization of peace in the country has a very special significance, since it is a spontaneous initiative from humble residents of Puerto Berrio and neighboring areas [words indistinct] by violence.

Meanwhile, the entire country has responded with solidarity to the national call for a demonstration of faith and hope in peace which will take place at noon on 7 December. The largest demonstration ever against violence will be staged for only 2 minutes next Wednesday. The Colombian people, as a whole, will rise, hoist white flags, wave handkerchieves, and participate in other demonstrations to demand peace and express repudiation of everything that violates peace and national fraternity.

Pope John Paul II today joined the worldwide plebiscite supporting President Belisario Betancur in connection with the kidnapping of his brother, Jaime Betancur Cuartas. In this respect, the pope sent a telegram to President Betancur, in which he expressed deep regret at the incident and [words indistinct] of the kidnapping of his brother.

The following is the text of the telegram:

I wish to express to you, Mr President, and to your relatives that I personally join in your understandable despair, resulting from the kidnapping of your brother, Jaime Betancur. Moreover, I pray to God for a prompt solution of the situation.

[Signed] John Paul II

NUCLEAR INFORMATION TO BE EXCHANGED WITH CHILE

PA040344 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0030 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota, 3 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- Chile and Colombia have signed an agreement to exchange information on the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, it was officially announced here. The agreement, signed yesterday by Chilean Deputy Foreign Minister Humberto Lloreda Caicedo, will permit both nations to increase their technological knowledge in the application of nuclear systems to the development of energy. The Chilean official told reporters at a news conference that the agreement came out of the eighth Mixed Commission, which has been meeting in Bogota since 30 November.

Two other agreements were signed, the first involving the two countries' telecommunications organizations in the improvement of international communications services, and the second involving the exchange and professional training of Colombian and Chilean students. It was also agreed, Deputy Minister Reyes said, to grant better facilities for tourist exchange, and a means of rendering the volumes of cargo transported by the two countries more reciprocal was examined.

Colombia and Chile also agreed to facilitate bilateral commercial exchange, and to revise, as much as possible, the taxes affecting each country's products.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT, TALKS OF NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA

Ortega Arrives

PA030443 [Editorial Report] Managua Domestic Service in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 3 December carried a report on Daniel Ortega's visit to Lima, Peru. The announcer began by stating that before leaving for Peru, Daniel Ortega explained the purpose of his trip, made at the invitation of Peruvian President Belaunde Terry. The purpose of the trip, in Ortega's words, was to strengthen relations between Nicaragua and Peru, a country that had expressed definite views regarding intervention in Nicaragua, and made statements in favor of a negotiated solution to the problems facing the area.

The Managua Domestic Service report went on to say that the actual arrival of Daniel Ortega in Lima was covered live; reportage is recorded from earlier in the day. An unidentified announcer stated that many diplomatic personnel and ministers of state were present for the arrival ceremony. After the announcer noted that the Peruvian news media pointed out the unusual nature of the arrival, in that President Belaunde Terry personally welcomed Ortega, something he generally does not do, a recording of the Peruvian president's welcoming remarks was aired. He said that Ortega's visit was an opportunity to improve relations at a difficult moment. He then said that the serious problems affecting Nicaragua would be discussed during the visit. The president ended his remarks by noting that "the most fervent vows" are made "so that Nicaragua and Central America could find, in the near future, the complete harmony and peace required for their continued development; this is the fervent hope of all its sister nations, especially of Peru."

Daniel Ortega's remarks in response, again from an earlier recording, were then aired. After thanking Peru for its expression of friendship and solidarity, Ortega stated that friendship between the two countries "goes back in history." He added that "relations between Peru and Nicaragua are an example of friendly and fraternal relations, which reflect a deep Latin American spirit." Daniel Ortega concluded his remarks in response to President Belaunde Terry by stating that at a time when Nicaragua is facing a serious crisis inherited from injustice and artificial conditions, it has found friendship and understanding from Peru. Following his statement, Ortega then answered questions from several reporters.

Ortega Press Conference

PA030517 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Press conference given by Nicaraguan Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra upon his arrival in Lima, Peru, on 2 December; questioners not identified]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Question] [Words indistinct] Voice of Nicaragua. We are doing live coverage. We would first like you to explain the purpose of your visit.

[Ortega] We have accepted an invitation from Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry. We feel honored to be here, because this allows us to establish even closer bonds between Nicaragua and Peru [words indistinct] bilateral relations. It also allows us to discuss topics that are of common interest to us. We know there is concern among the Latin American peoples and their leaders, namely, President Belaunde Terry, about the situation that prevails in the Central American region. This meeting will allow us to discuss these problems and possible actions that may be implemented in order to find a peaceful political solution to the crisis.

[Question] What is the real situation that prevails at this moment in Nicaragua and the Central American countries? What will you say to the Peruvian Government?

[Ortega] Central America...[changes thought] we can assert that the efforts for peace and negotiation have made some progress. However, the actions in the military field -- the warmongering threats of intervention -- are moving faster than these efforts for peace and negotiation. This creates a highly critical situation for all the Central American people. They are being threatened with direct intervention, above all, from the United States, which has stationed its warships in our region, off our coasts. Thousands of soldiers have landed in Central American territory, and more soldiers are scheduled to land in other Central American states. Logically, this is a delicate situation that demands the participation of Latin America, to direct an appeal to reason in the U.S. Government, so that it will participate seriously in the search for a political solution to the problems we have mentioned.

[Question] How would you term the consequences of the confrontations that are taking place right now in Central America?

[Ortega] The Central American people, generally speaking, are paying the costs of this intervention. Certain Central American countries have become involved in this aggressive policy, because of pressures or because of the economic crisis that prevails in the region. They have not been able to resist the pressure exerted by the United States, and have become involved in a policy that will have negative results for their own people.

[Question] Commander Ortega, allow me to ask: Given the recent events in Grenada, do you believe that present circumstances in Nicaragua could lead to a similar situation?

[Ortega] I believe there is a substantial difference between Nicaragua and Grenada. When the intervention in Grenada took place, it involved a nation that was confused because of the political crisis it was experiencing. It was also paralyzed as a result of the attitude assumed by the government, after Minister Bishop's murder. Likewise, this was an unarmed nation. This is not the case in Nicaragua, because this is a nation which has clearly perceived its historical role. This is an active nation, an armed nation. Its people are ready and willing to face, resist, and defeat any intervention from the United States. Above all, it is willing to seek an understanding with the United States. We are not enemies of the United States; our policy does not include enmity toward the United States. We are struggling against the traditional position of U.S. policy, which many times in our history, the history of Latin America -- mainly in Nicaragua -- has been expressed through intervention. We are trying to break -- if I may use the word -- with the inconsistency and lack of understanding of the U.S. policy concerning Latin American problems, and stress the need for a change, above all, in relation to the Central American region.

[Question] Commander, there are two things in which international opinion is quite interested. One concerns the transfer of power as a result of elections and the arrival of democracy in Nicaragua. Secondly, taking advantage of the presence of Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto here, the other issue has to do with the conflicts, which have been implied by the international press, between the Catholic Church and the Nicaraguan Government.

[Ortega] I would like to say that Nicaragua, for the first time in its history, has the opportunity to build democracy. What the United States did was establish a dictatorship like Somoza's. It was not concerned with establishing a democratic regime in Nicaragua, but a bloody dictatorship like Somoza's. Naturally, this situation had to result in a revolution such as that which has taken place in Nicaragua. In fact, I could say that the Nicaraguan revolution is the result of the misguided U.S. policy in Nicaragua and Central America.

The first thing we did in Nicaragua was adopt a democratic measure, namely, the literacy campaign, an essential element in building democracy. In addition, we adopted a number of programs beneficial to the people. Among other things, it is important to guarantee the institutionalization of the country through the electoral process, an aspect on which we have been working, and which will lead to elections in 1985.

As for the other problem you mentioned, there have been conflicts involving the political position adopted by some members of the church, either in favor of or against the revolution, which naturally creates political confrontations. However, regarding the purely religious aspect, there is respect for the religious practices and beliefs of the Nicaraguan people; in fact, we have recently begun a dialogue with Nicaraguan bishops which is still underway.

[Question] What is your reaction to the proposal of the three dissident groups of your country to stop their military activities if elections are called, and democratic reforms as established by the OAS in [words indistinct] are instituted? Will these groups be permitted to participate in the elections?

[Ortega] What I can tell you is that the opinion of those three groups is the opinion of groups which are an artificial force, a force that exists to the extent that the United States created it. Nicaragua is preparing for an electoral process and [words indistinct] participation in it [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] It depends on the will of the United States. The United States could become the great stabilizer in the Central American situation, just as it has become the great destabilizer. It has the last word.

[Question] What has the Contadora Group achieved in [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] I believe the Contadora Group has played a very important role. Its efforts have been decisive in strengthening the negotiations, and thus containing the possibility of an intervention. This is clearly evident.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] We feel that Latin America responds to the interests of its peoples, regardless of distance. Moreover we believe that Latin American unity is so necessary to meet common problems -- not only involving the aspect of nonintervention, but also concerning the economic order -- affecting the peoples of the region. Thank you. [end recording]

Belaunde, Ortega Remarks

PY031152 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2103 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Lima, 2 Dec (EFE) -- Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, said today in Lima that "the United States should be the great stabilizer in Central America just as it has been the destabilizer."

The Nicaraguan leader made that remark at the military airport of the Peruvian capital where he arrived at noon today to begin a 2-day official visit as a guest of Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry.

After briefly expressing thanks to President Belaunde and the Peruvian Government for the invitation, the coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta stressed the need for a negotiated solution to the Central American crisis. Ortega affirmed that the crisis "has been artificially created," and then asked for the support of the Latin American nations that "believe in the freedom of the people."

The Sandinist leader also affirmed that although negotiation efforts have been increased, "the U.S. military pressure is undermining those efforts." Ortega reiterated that the Nicaraguan institutionalization process is progressing toward the elections scheduled for 1985.

He, on the other hand, noted that the United States would not find in Nicaragua a "demobilized and confused" people as it did in Grenada, but "an armed, organized people, ready to repel an invasion."

In his remarks welcoming the Sandinist commander, the Peruvian president underscored his country's position favoring a negotiated solution for the Central American problems, and "at this difficult moment" he reaffirmed the principles of nonintervention and free determination of peoples.

Daniel Ortega will meet today with President Belaunde, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Fernando Schwalb, and the leaders of the congressional houses. On Saturday, Ortega will meet with leaders of political parties, and later will hold a press conference before returning to Managua.

Ortega Talks With Belaunde, Schwalb

PY031455 Paris AFP in Spanish 0343 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Lima, 2 Dec (AFP) -- Top Peruvian Government authorities, President Fernando Belaunde, and Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Fernando Schwalb held successive talks here this afternoon for 2 and 1/2 hours with Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, and his Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto.

Ortega, who arrived with a 15-member delegation at noon for a 24-hour visit, had lunch with President Belaunde at Government Palace.

On receiving Ortega, Belaunde stressed the traditional friendship and fraternity between Nicaragua and Peru, and highlighted Peru's loyalty to the principles of nonintervention and free determination of peoples.

Ortega, who will leave tomorrow for Buenos Aires to attend the presidential inauguration of Raul Alfonsin, also held meetings with the presidents of the Chamber of Deputies and of the Senate, and was then received at the Torre Tagle Palace by Foreign Minister Schwalb.

On leaving, he said that President Belaunde reaffirmed the solidarity of the Peruvian identification with Central American problems. This identification is not new, he stated, because Peru previously participated in the efforts for a peace treaty between Honduras and El Salvador.

The Peruvian president reaffirmed his opposition to any military interventionist solution to the situation in Central America and his interest in promoting a peaceful political solution based on dialogue.

Regarding the Nicaraguan position for a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis, Ortega stated: We have made very concrete proposals to the Contadora Group (Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela). We presented two very concrete proposals: the withdrawal of all foreign military advisers, and the freezing of weapons shipments to Central America. These proposals, in addition to other measures, the nonestablishment of foreign military bases, the nonacceptance of the presence of foreign military forces, and the nonrealization of maneuvers or operations with the participation of those forces, would set the basis for a peaceful solution, he stated.

The United States has the last word in this regard, he added. Regarding the possibility of a U.S. military intervention against Nicaragua, Ortega expressed his conviction that it would be defeated. Our people are ready to fight and are materially prepared, he stated. A U.S. intervention in Nicaragua would not be anything new, because it had taken place on other occasions. He warned, however, that the defeat of the interventionists would not come rapidly but in the medium or long term.

Ortega News Conference

PA032245 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1652 GMT 3 Dec 83

[News conference held by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, in Lima, Peru; questioners not identified -- live]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] The spirit and identity of our peoples, enriched with the passage of time and our struggle, have become stronger, which explains the great solidarity we found here in Peru. This solidarity is reflected in and has been clearly expressed by the Peruvian Government, led by architect Fernando Belaunde Terry. It was obvious on our arrival yesterday and throughout this 2-day visit, and it will be expressed in the joint communique that will be released this afternoon. This is what we wanted to say; we are now at your disposal, and will answer any questions you may have.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] There are collaborators in Nicaragua from various other countries. We have collaborators from Western countries, from the socialist community, from the United States, and from Latin America. The Latin American collaborators include Cubans. Cuba's cooperation is expressed through doctors, teachers, and some professionals from technical areas. A normal transition is taking place now, at the end of the year: The Cuban teachers are going home on vacation. The school year in Nicaragua is over and some 2,000 Cuban teachers have returned home. In this annual flow of teachers and other advisers who come to our country from Cuba, there are some who remain in Cuba; they don't return to our country because they've completed their tour of duty. Others will return, however.

But the issue of cooperation in technical, social, and other areas is not under discussion in Central America. The topic being discussed in Central America is the presence of foreign military advisers.

On this issue, Nicaragua has clearly stated that it is not taking a unilateral position. Nicaragua is willing -- and I reported this personally to the Contadora presidents of Venezuela, Mexico, Columbia, and Panama in a meeting last month -- to agree immediately to the withdrawal of all foreign military advisers from the Central American area. We also said that we are willing to put an immediate freeze on the entry of weapons into Central America. We noted the need for all Central Americans to promise not to establish foreign military bases in Central America, not to permit the presence of foreign troops in Central America, and not to accept exercises or military maneuvers involving foreign forces.

The United States termed our proposal insufficient because we did not mention the issue of advisers and weapons. However, we did not mention this issue because we felt that security problems had to be solved first, before going on to those of advisers and arms. We have now affirmed our willingness to proceed immediately. If we agreed tomorrow to withdraw all foreign military advisers from the region, Nicaragua would be willing to do so immediately. But as we said, this is a decision that cannot be made unilaterally by Nicaragua. It must be made by consensus among all Central American states. This is also true on the other issues I've mentioned to you.

[Question] What are the primary achievements of your visit to Peru?

[Ortega] I believe that the most important aspect is the rapproachement between our peoples. When we talk about our peoples, when we talk about the rapprochement between the Nicaraguan and Peruvian peoples, we are talking about the rapprochement of all Central American peoples with the people of Peru. The Central American peoples are those who are suffering the terror, aggression, grief, and sacrifice imposed by a bad U.S. policy. Therefore, by bringing the Central American peoples closer to the people of Peru, we are bringing the Latin American peoples closer and thus strengthening Latin American unity. We find this attitude echoed by the Latin American governments, as was clearly demonstrated in the recent OAS meeting, where Latin America voted against intervention in Grenada.

[Question] You discussed several Central American topics with President Belaunde Terry. As Peru is now a member of the UN Security Council, what do you expect from Peru at the Security Council and what do you seek from your meetings with President Belaunde Terry in terms of Peru's position toward Nicaragua?

[Ortega] We feel that Peru's representation at the UN Security Council as of 1 January is very important, because it will permit Latin America a permanent and ideal presence at the UN Security Council. We also feel that since President Belaunde Terry knows the current issues and has already expressed an opinion on them, it is certain that Peru will continue this expressed policy at the council.

[Question] Yesterday, Peruvian television carried a special report produced in Venezuela about the Miskitos. At least 10 people charged that the Sandinist forces have killed many fathers, that there have been many widows, and that many families have been rendered helpless because their elder sons were killed. What is your opinion of this documentary?

[Ortega] We are the target of a slanderous campaign. Part of the large sum that the U.S. Government has allocated for covert operations against Nicaragua is being used for this campaign.

One of the main fronts on which they operate -- aside from the military front, which involves arming the Somozist guardsmen and other counterrevolutionaries -- is that of international propaganda. Thus, we view this sort of documentary as part of the campaign set into motion by the powerful U.S. machinery. This is a campaign with which we cannot compete because we are too weak. But we have moral strength that is greater than the material resources of the United States and its lies.

We can say that it is U.S. policy that killed the Miskitos. It is the United States that has involved them in counterrevolutionary activities. It is the United States that has kidnapped them and taken them to Honduras, where they've been trained to launch, along with the Somozist guardsmen, criminal actions against their own peoples.

Meanwhile, the Sandinist revolution displays its strength and its generous policy. Only 3 days ago it decreed a general amnesty for the Miskitós and released all Nicaraguans of Miskito origin who were in prison. I believe that these actions are worth stressing, because they show that Nicaragua is a society open to the world. Nicaragua is constantly being visited by friendly reporters and by intellectuals from all over, including the United States, as many North Americans continue to come to Nicaragua.

The first thing the revolution did after the victory, in its efforts to democratize the country, was to provide education to our illiterate people, a good number of whom were Miskitos. The literacy programs were offered to the Miskito people in their own language, and the revolution offered all possible support to the organization of the Miskitos. In fact, I personally spent several weeks in the North Atlantic part of Nicaragua helping the Miskitos to organize, and I later took them to the State Council. For the first time in history the Miskitos had a representative at the State Council of Nicaragua.

This entire effort, which had been progressing satisfactorily, was destroyed the moment the current U.S. Government decided to use the Miskitos, through terror and intimidation, to launch a campaign against Nicaragua. Those are the facts about the Miskitos in Nicaragua, which show that the true enemy of the Nicaraguan Miskito population is U.S. policy.

I believe that the most important aspects of this visit are the fact that we have been able to make direct contact and express our understanding of the serious situation that we are facing, while, at the same time, it has given the president of Peru the opportunity to be better informed and to continue his support for our efforts to secure peace and dialogue in Central America.

[Question] I would like to ask you two questions. The first relates to the final session of the State Council tomorrow, at which a formal announcement calling elections in Nicaragua is expected. Could you tell us what kind of elections are being planned -- are they for a constituent assembly or are they general elections?

[Ortega] This is in the hands of the State Council, which will establish the electoral regulations. Tomorrow the State Council will discuss and set the date for the initiation of the electoral process and other related measures. We must point out, particularly to those who are trying to view these measures as a sign of weakness by Nicaragua in facing the aggressive U.S. policy, that they actually relate to a series of steps previously planned [words indistinct] by the Nicaraguan revolution, which fixed the date for 1985. The State Council has been working to implement this plan; thus, at the final session of the State Council tomorrow we will have the opportunity to announce these measures.

[Question] [Words indistinct] groups and the Sandinist government. Would the government be willing to establish a dialogue with these groups?

[Ortega] We must point out how quickly Mr Stone darted to Panama City when the Contadora Groups's technical commission was meeting there. This does not help Contadora; we see this as an attempt to sabotage the Contadora efforts. Instead of saying: We have come to support the efforts being undertaken by the Contadora tehcnical commission prior to the foreign ministers' meeting, Stone came to meet with the counterrevolution, which was artificially created by the United States and which continues to receive U.S. financial support and weapons. Therefore, the United States has assumed a role in opposition to the Contadora efforts. Logically, Nicaragua cannot support this.

[Question] [Passage indistinct] Why do you restrict freedom of the press in Nicaragua?

[Ortega] The United States is to blame for this. There are those who say: But you blame the United States for everything. Unfortunately, Nicaragua's reality has been as follows: Nicaragua was invaded by the United States in the last century. Nicaragua has been invaded by the United States on several occasions in this century. Nicaragua is again being threatened with a U.S. invasion. The only respite we have had, as far as the United States is concerned, was a short period during President Carter's administration, after the triumph of the revolution; in other words, from July 1979 to the end of 1980. This was the only respite, when we felt that the U.S. Government was willing to improve its relations with Nicaragua.

The scandalous thing about this is that at this point in our history, with so much development being achieved by mankind, with such civilization, the United States is renewing its antidemocratic policy, and doing so in the name of democracy, which makes it even worse. This policy violates the human rights of all nations. It is the terrorist policy of a government that approves millions of dollars for operations such as those launched against our country, which have caused more than 700 deaths and more than $103 million in losses in the last year. These are not military losses; they are losses produced by actions perpetrated by criminals sent by the U.S. Government. As a result, the first efforts ever made in Nicaragua to benefit the working classes have been destroyed. These criminals have destroyed health centers, schools, agricultural and peasant cooperatives, and machinery for building roads and for gathering our harvests. They are killing the young people who come to pick coffee; these are the effects of the current U.S. policy.

In truth, this causes great concern because we cannot understand how such a policy can be revived in current times. [passage indistinct]

[Question] You have said that the people and Government of Nicaragua are being pressured on different fronts, both militarily and socially. What is Nicaragua's real situation in terms of economics? Is it experiencing an economic crisis, and what are its chances of overcoming its present social problems?

[Ortega] We cannot ignore the current world economic crisis. The rich countries, those with market economies, always preserve their interests at the cost of Third World and underdeveloped countries. In this case, Latin America is one of the main victims of this unjust policy, which is being experienced throughout the international economic order.

If we add to this the U.S. Government's decision to wage an economic war against Nicaragua -- a political, military, and economic war -- by exerting pressure on West European and Latin American governments, by sending emissaries to Latin America and Western Europe to stop all types of cooperation with Nicaragua, and by pressuring international organizations in which the United States has great clout, then we can understand that Nicaragua is the victim of a two-pronged action: the effects of an overall economic crisis, and the effects of a crisis in the Nicaraguan economy that was created or heightened by the United States. If we add the damage to our economy caused by other CIA-encouraged actions -- including the destruction of the fuel tanks in Corinto, the destruction of many bridges, etc. -- we find that Nicaragua is the country that is most affected by the economic crisis. And to this we must add deliberate actions by the United States. However, we must also say that despite such an adverse situation, the Nicaraguan people are exerting themselves to continue to develop our economy. They are exerting themselves in the search for economic growth. We can say that as a result of the people's enthusiastic participation in our production, Nicaragua is the only Central American country that has shown marked economic progress, despite such an overwhelming crisis.

[Question] I am [name indistinct] of Channel 4. Commander Ortega, I would like to ask two questions: How are your current relations with the church leaders in your country, with whom you have had some problems in the past? Also, you have said that Nicaragua is the target of a slanderous campaign, which we understand is a campaign of defamation and distortion of [words indistinct]. If you permit a restriction of freedom of the press, how can you avoid this slanderous campaign against your country?

[Ortega] As for the church leaders, we have had no problem with the church as such. We have had no problems with any religion or with any set of religious beliefs. We have had problems in the political sector, but this is understandable when you have a revolution.

There are some clergymen who, disregarding their proper role, take political positions in favor of or against the revolution. Logically, they expose themselves to political confrontation. This is being manipulated by all of the press campaigns, which present it as some kind of political confrontation. If you participate in politics you are risking political confrontation, even if you are a clergyman.

This is also manipulated by U.S. propaganda and is portrayed as religious persecution. Anyone can come to Nicaragua and ascertain that the churches in Nicaragua are always full, that there is freedom of religion, and that this is supported by the revolutionary government. We encourage and participate in all religious activities.

Many things are just not known. I am sure that it is unknown here that a Maryknoll priest was arrested in the United States, charged with the crime of taking a speech by Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero to a base where Salvadoran soldiers were being trained. The priest played the speech over loudspeakers, and the soldiers could hear Msgr Romero telling them to seek fraternity and to avoid bloodshed in the country. This was enough to cause the democratic U.S. Government to arrest the priest and to sentence him to 14 months in solitary confinement. What is the priest's name?

[Unidentified speaker] (Roy Bushman).

[Ortega] (Roy Bushman), that is the priest's name. I don't know how many of you knew about this. Of course, this is unknown to many because it took place in the United States. Not a single priest has been arrested in Nicaragua, despite the fact that some of them are politically active. In truth, we are victims of a slanderous campaign; there is no religious persecution in Nicaragua.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] [words indistinct] (?that) we have restricted information on some aspects [words indistinct] go to Nicaragua and read the daily newspaper LA PRENSA, and you will find statements of an ideological nature that, well, that LA PRENSA defends. You can make such statements. It is on information of a military, and economic nature, because of the sensitivity of our situation, that there is press control.

Why have we had to restrict this kind of information? Well, so that we will not experience what happened in Chile. In Chile, the United States took advantage of certain media, acting through the CIA, to destablilize and put an end to a duly elected government.

The day that appropriate conditons exist, the day that the United States stops attacking us or stops launching attacks of all sorts against us, there will be no reason to (continue) restrictions on the press in Nicaragua. Thus, the party that is guilty of press restrictions is the United States. Obviously, it provokes the situation, forcing us to establish restrictions on the press, and then launches its campaign against us. It provoked the situation with the Miskotos on the Atlantic coast, and the campaign followed.

In other words, this is a thoroughly well-mounted and coordinated action, a very powerful action. One has to understand the economic and military power of the United States and [words indistinct] the Nicaraguan revolution, a small nation with barely 3 million inhabitants. This actually forces us to take defensive measures.

[Question] [Words indistinct] What percentage of the economy is controlled by the state and what percentage by the private sector?

[Ortega] As far as the mixed economy in our country is concerned, we can state that there are portions, particularly in the agricultural-livestock area, in which the private sector is vastly in the majority. We are talking in terms of 70 percent held by the private sector, of 80 percent held by the private sector, and of 20 percent held by the state sector.

The main sugar mill in Nicaragua is privately owned. The only sugar mill capable of refining sugar is privately owned. Recently, the U. S, President deciced to cancel Nicaragua's sugar quota under which Nicaragua made sales on the U.S. market. With this measure, the U.S. Government was not attacking the Nicaraguan revolution but the Nicaraguan private sector, because the entire output of that sugar mill, since it is the only mill that refines, was sold on the U. S. market. This was the raison d'etre of this sugar mill.

The Nicaraguan Government was able to place this sugar in other countries immediately, counting on the solidarity of other governments that are not liked by the U. S. Government. These governments knew how to show solidarity, the governments of Algeria, Iran and so forth where this sugar was sold.

Therefore, we must say that the United States is involved in this, unfortunately. There are some who think that this is an exaggeration by us or merely a very simple way of blaming all of our problems on the United States. However, we could give you countless examples like this one, in which the United States is the main factor in destabilizing Nicaragua's efforts to strengthen a mixed economy and is doing direct damage to the private sector.

When the United States seeks to prevent the approval of loans for Nicaragua from international organizations and from banks, it is attacking our mixed economy. We are then left without sufficient foreign exchange to meet the demands of the production sectors -- either private of state. [Words indistinct] and we can say that 52 or 53 percent of the industrial sector is privately owned; the rest is state-owned. The private sector's participation is stronger. In general, U.S. economic policy attacks our efforts to achieve a mixed economy. This is the truth.

[Question] Companero Commander, I am a national observer from a workers' cooperative. One of the most important topics in Latin America, the Nicaraguan revolution, has been discussed in terms of specific problems including the political struggle, the economic struggle, and the military struggle. However, many have forgotten the ideological struggle and how it began. A campaign of slander has been organized against the Nicaraguan and Cuban revolutions, and against the socialist sectors. All of the news media are being used in this camapaign. What has the Sandinist Government done to clarify this situation?

[Ortega] I have said that Nicaragua pursues an open-door policy. When the United States decided to expel our consuls, thus limiting the U.S. people's chances of visiting our country, we decided that the U.S. people could come directly to our airport and that the matter of their visas would be solved there. We have an open door policy because we are not afraid to let the facts of Nicaragua be known. Anyone who comes to Nicaragua can talk with the various sectors. Those who are with the revolution and those who are against the revolution. They are free to talk with anyone. An example of the freedom that exists in Nicaragua is that Mr Chamorro [Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, editor of LA PRENSA] can travel abroad and say whatever he wishes, and then he may freely return to our country. This is an example that in Nicaragua there is no... [Ortega is interrupted by the next question]

[Question] May I ask a question? [words indistinct] press conference, you said that the Cuban doctors and teachers were going to Cuba, adding that some of them would return to Nicaragua. Does this mean -- since some of them are going to say -- that the number of Cuban doctors and teachers in Nicaragua will be reduced? Taking the reasons you mentioned into account, will the number of military advisers remain at its present level?

[Ortega] I believe that it is important to note that the policy of any state, and in this case that of Nicaragua, is to seek but not to depend on cooperation; rather, to assimilate it and to begin training our own personnel. Therefore, Nicargagua will be successful when we no longer need so much cooperation. It will mean that we have the necessary trained personnel and have to depend less on so much international cooperation.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] I think that, in terms of teachers, Nicaragua has made some progress. As for doctors, there has been a certain advance, but the problem in the health sector is serious. It is a general problem affecting many countries; in Nicaragua's case, we have a serious shortage of doctors and we always need support when it comes to medical personnel. It takes longer to train medical personnel, and it takes an even longer time when they specialize.

[Question] What predictions or estimates does your government have concerning an imminent U.S. invasion of your country? This has been repeatedly stated, but just a while ago, a few hours ago in fact, U.S. President Ronald Reagan again left this possibility open.

[Ortega] We are fighting on two fronts to face this intervention. One of them is the internal front [words indistinct], where a mobilization of the population for defense is underway. The purpose is to prepare to face, to resist, and to defeat any direct U.S. military intervention; we are certain that Nicaragua will defeat any such intervention. Of course, such a defeat will not take place quickly, but this U.S. military intervention will be defeated, though at a very high cost for our people, naturally. The United States will pay a tremendous price, too, however.

On the international front, we must make efforts to call the attention of the U.S. Government, the U.S. public, the U.S. Congress and the U.S. press to the need to change their policy and to seek a peaceful solution to current problems. We must make efforts in both of these directions. The situation is truly grave, very grave, yet it is not we who determine its gravity. It is determined by the United States in its statements by its President, by its secretary of defense, by its various officials, and in its actions in Central America, which, as I have already said, are made evident by the presence of warships, thousands of soldiers, warplanes and continuous plans to attack Nicaragua.

[Question] Eden Pastora held talks with the Cuban Government under the pretext that he was defending the revolution in Nicaragua. In the past, he has said that if the United States intervened in his country, he would join the FSLN. What is your opinion of Pastora and of the actions in which he has been involved in Costa Rica?

[Ortega] I have to explain that Mr Pastora hasn't held talks with the Cuban Government. We don't know that. What we know is that a man who is a member of his group, Carlos Coronel, told some Cubans representatives of his willingness to break with Pastora because Mr Pastora has compromised himself with the CIA. (?This is a different story). That is what we know.

Joint Communique Issued

PA040254 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0136 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Joint Communique issued by the Nicaraguan and Peruvian Governments in Lima on 3 December 1983 -- read in Managua by Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry official Aldo Diaz Lacayo]

[Text] 1. The Peruvian Government was very pleased to receive a visit by His Excellency Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, who remained in Lima on 2 and 3 December 1983 and who was accompanied by Foreign Minister His Excellency Miguel D'Escoto Brockman and other high-level Nicaraguan officials.

Commander Ortega met with President Fernando Belaunde Terry, Fernando Schwalb Lopez Aldana, president of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister; Ricardo Monteagudo Monteagudo, president of the Senate; and other Peruvian personalities.

D'Escoto Brockman met with the Peruvian foreign minister, while the members of the Nicaraguan delegation met with various Peruvian authorities.

2. The talks between the coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua and the members of his delegation with top Peruvian officials were held in a climate of friendship. Bilateral matters and international affairs were discussed, particularly as concerns the Central American problem.

3. The Peruvian president and the coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua stressed their governments' support for the provisions of the UN and OAS Charters. In this context, they stressed the principles of the sovereign equality of states, respect for their territorial integrity, avoidance of the threat or use of force, the peoples' right to self-determination, nonintervention, the peaceful solution of controversies, and compliance with treaties. They also noted their countries' adherence to pluralism in international relations, their full respect for democratic institutions, their promotion of social justice, their cooperation for development, their defense of human rights, and their condemnation of terrorism and subversion, including those that originate abroad.

4. The coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua offered a thorough explanation to Peruvian authorities of the most important aspects of his country's foreign policy, particularly the various proposals made by his government to promote the negotiations being carried out within the framework of the Contadora Group. He also expressed concern over the constant incursions that affect his country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

5. The Peruvian president thanked the coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua for this information and reaffirmed his wish that a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis be negotiated, in accordance with the principles of the inter-American legal system.

6. The two leaders assessed the Central American situation and exchanged views on its causes, including the economic and social problems affecting the area's countries, the prompt solution of which is currently imperative.

7. They reiterated their full support for the Contadora Group's efforts to promote dialogue among the parties that are directly affected, in order to find a negotiated solution to the region's principal problems. They expressed the hope that all nations of the continent will provide effective and full cooperation in creating conditions that can guarantee peace and security in Central America.

8. They agreed on the advisability of increasing coordination through SELA of Latin American (?prices), so as to reinforce the organization's capacity to negotiate a solution to the international economic crisis. They agreed on the importance of the creation of the Action Committee for the Economic and Social Development of Central America [Comite de Accion para el Desarrollo Economico y Social de Centro America], CADESCA, for the advancement of the Central American subregion.

9. They stressed that economic cooperation among developing countries, as it is based on the principles of solidarity and reciprocal interest, is a viable and effective means of promoting the economic and social development of the peoples. In this regard, they also praised the actions being taken by nonaligned countries to overcome the problems that prevent the establishment of a new world economic order based on peace, equality, and justice.

10. On bilateral topics, they expressed satisfaction with the fact that the relations between Peru and Nicaragua are maintained on a level of friendly understanding. They agreed to increase the two nations' rapprochement through economic, trade, and cultural cooperation. They also stressed the need to draft a bilateral agreement for the protection and defense of cultural heritage.

11. The coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua expressed recognition of the hospitality afforded him and his delegation during his stay in Peru, and reiterated an invitation that President Belaunde Terry visit Nicaragua on a date that the president deems advisable.

ELEVEN POLICEMEN DIE IN AMBUSH IN AYACUCHO

PY040059 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0348 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Lima, 2 Dec (EFE) -- Tonight the Military Political Command of the Emergency Zone reported that 11 policemen of the Peruvian Investigative Police (PIP) died in an ambush carried out by drug traffickers in Ayacucho Department. The communique points out that according to reports from peasants of the San Francisco region, the attack took place in Machingari.

The PIP patrol, which left for an antidrug operation on 19 November, was made up of 12 policemen and 2 guides. According to police reports, the ambush was carried out by drug traffickers and terrorists who were being chased by the policemen, who 10 days ago entered a rough region of the Ayacucho Department.

BODIES IDENTIFIED AFTER 25 NOV HUANTA RAID

PA040440 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] The bodies of seven people who had been arrested by the Peruvian Navy in the Province of Huanta, Ayacucho Department, have been identified by their relatives. According to the paper EL DIARIO MARKA, published in Lima, the seven were arrested on 25 November in a raid carried out by the Peruvian Navy in Huanta, after two policemen were killed, an act attributed to the Shining Path clandestine group. The relatives of others who were arrested on the same day are terrified, fearing that their relatives may have met the same fate.

Meanwhile, it has been learned in Lima that Porfirio Moreira, secretary of the United Education Workers Union in Huanta, and professors Antonio Guerrero and Lourdes Ore, all of whom have been reported missing, are being held at the investigative police station in Ayacucho.

Finally, Monsignor Luis Banbaren, president of the Episcopal Committee of Social Action, has asked the government to investigate the cases of 78 people who have been reported missing or arrested in the southern Andean Department of Ayacucho and in others of central Peru.

GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN AGAINST PROTEST

PY031129 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2123 GMT 2 Dec 83

[By Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Text] Montevideo, 2 Dec (EFE) -- While the Uruguayan military government is beginning an intense campaign aimed at neutralizing the people's protest, which the regime blames on the Marxist left, political parties claim that "the people have attained maturity in democracy" and that they have answered the questions that parties were supposed to answer.

After the speech of president Gregorio Alvarez last Thursday, the regime launched an advertising offensive seeking to arouse the people's attention in the face of the growing tide of opposition running through the country. Newspapers, radio, and television convey the Armed Forces' willingness to influence the public by warning about the "danger of communism" and the action of infiltrated agents. Today's newspapers carry a two-page message in which the government notes leftists outnumbered recognized party members almost two to one at the rally that the opposition organized last Sunday and that 400,000 people attended.

The leaders of the Blanco, Colorado and Civic Union Parties, the ones recognized by the government, assert that the massive protest has been supported by the entire people, who were born and educated in a democracy. The three recognized parties are controlled by the opposition. The recognized parties had obtained government authorization for the rally, to which they also invited the outlawed left, to show that nobody should be excluded in a democracy.

The government and the military note the active presence of the left and underline "the danger" of the actions by "the enemies of freedom and democracy." But the warning that President Alvarez made in his speech, which was covered by the national radio and television network, did not quell the protests. Quite to the contrary, Montevideo residents spontaneously began clanging their pots and pans in an unprecedented "concert" and later went out to the streets to demand that the military "go home."

Politicians today referred to that spontaneous action, saying that "the people gave the answer that the parties would have given," meaning that there will be no reply to the questions that the military have publicly raised. The regime asked politicians "whether they want to form a very broad front," alluding to the 1971 leftist coalition that won a little over 15 percent of all votes.

The president also asked whether "asking for amnesty and pardon means asking for the release of the Tupamaro murderers." In their proclamation, the military wonders: "Are conditions being created for the Communist Party to seize power within a distorted democracy?"

All political parties agree that "the answers were given by the people on the streets last Sunday and after the presidential speech last night."

JORGE BATLLE CALLS FOR ALVAREZ' RESIGNATION

PY031802 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0143 GMT 3 Dec 83

[By Eduardo Coccaro]

[Text] Montevideo, 2 Dec (EFE) -- Colorado Party member Jorge Batlle today publicly asked for the resignation of Uruguayan President Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez, whom he accused of being more involved in politics than in government. In a press conference, Batlle said that the president, by answering the letter of the political parties yesterday, began his campaign for votes. Batlle added: "The president's speech broadcast by radio and television was clearly aimed at getting votes for the official party he seeks to create."

Some people close to Alvarez, the fourth president in 10 years of military government, are gathering material for the formation of the government party. Alvarez appears as the head of the movement, but he has not found within the Armed Forces the support of the majority of generals sharing his projects.

Batlle, who was recently rehabilitated by the military regime after 10 years of proscription, said that he welcomes a government party along with the other parties in a pluralist democracy but that President Alvarez must therefore resign. If Alvarez resigns, all politicians will be on an equal footing to test their strength in the elections promised by the military government in 1 year.

Batlle also said that the people have responded to the public exhortation made by the president in his speech. "Alvarez asked the people to ponder, and the people took about 30 seconds to think it over," referring to the "concert" of pots and pans, and the spontaneous demonstrations carried out after the president's speech last Thursday.

While people close to Alvarez are negotiating the purchase of a newspaper to become the voice of the future government party, high ranking military officers said that the Armed Forces will not get involved in politics. General Hugo Medina, chief of the Third Army Division, and the most firm candidate to become Army commander next February after the retirement of Lieutenant General Boscan Hontou, recently said that military men will not get involved in politics.

A few weeks ago Alvarez obtained 16 favorable votes within the Council of Generals for the formation of his party, but this support was not enough for the Armed Forces to approve the project.

Havana Notes Resignation Request

PA040406 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Jorge Batlle, leader of the Colorado Party of Uruguay, has publicly requested the resignation of President General Gregorio Alvarez, whom he accused of trying to organize a party for the elections scheduled next year. At a news conference in Montevideo, Batlle said that, instead of responding to demands of the political parties, Alvarez began his campaign to win votes in last Thursday's speech. He added, however, that the people responded promptly to the president's request for reflection, a clear reference to the banging of pots and pans and the spontaneous demonstrations that were staged on Thursday following Gen Alvarez' speech.

BLANCO PARTY LEADER FERNANDO OLIU DIES

PY031800 Paris AFP in Spanish 1232 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Montevideo, 3 Dec (AFP) -- Fernando Oliu, a prominent leader of the traditional Uruguayan Blanco or Nationalist Party, today unexpectedly died of a heart attack. The deceased politician, a lawyer of 56, had participated in the abortive dialogue with the Armed Forces regarding the possibilities of a reform of the Constitution, but he gave up the dialogue when he found that the talks did not progress as he expected. Oliu was a member of the Blanco Party directorate and belonged to the trend led by the exiled former presidential candidate Wilson Ferreira Aldunate. He was an outspoken politician with well-founded opinions and had become a leading personality of his group and party and a harsh critic of the current civic-military process.

BROAD FRONT DELEGATION INVITED BY ALFONSIN

PY031613 Paris AFP in Spanish 0231 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Montevideo, 2 Dec (AFP) -- Today it was learned from political circles that Argentine President-elect Raul Alfonsin has invited the proscribed Uruguayan leftist coalition Broad Front to attend the presidential inauguration on 10 December. It was reported that the Broad Front will be represented by Juan Crottogini, former vice presidential candidate in the 1971 elections, and by former Senators Alba Roballo and Jose Pedro Cardozo.

POLICE DENY PERMISSION TO HOLD 'HEALTH WEEK'

PY020246 Paris AFP in Spanish 1623 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Dec (AFP) -- The Montevideo Police have banned the meetings which were scheduled as part of "Health Week" organized by Uruguayan labor, student, and professional sectors with the participation of UN and UNESCO delegates. Health Week had been organized by unions related to the health area to study health problems at the national level. Argentine heart surgeon Rene Favaloro, Argentine politician and physician Raul Mattera, and Ecuadoran presidential candidate Huertas were to participate in Health Week. The organizers repudiated the police ban which is intended, they said, to keep representative and knowledgeable groups from making effective contributions to finding indispensable solutions.

HAVANA NOTES ANTIGOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATION

PA022029 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The people of Montevideo have responded to a speech that Gregorio Alvarez, head of the Uruguayan military regime, was delivering on television with a spontaneous banging of pots and sounding of horns along the major streets of the capital. The deafening sound made it practically impossible to hear the speech delivered by the head of the regime. Thousands later gathered in front of the offices of the newspaper EL DIA and then marched along the centrally located 18 July Avenue, chanting the slogans "The military dictatorship will fall" and "The people united will never be defeated." In his short speech, which will be rebroadcast today, Alvarez criticized the large rally held last Sunday under the motto "Democracy, Freedom, and Work."

REPORTAGE ON 4 DEC PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Security Tightened

PA021748 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1558 GMT 2 Dec 83

[By Orlando Lizama]

[Excerpt] Caracas, 2 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Armed Forces today took control of the country's security services to guarantee normal general elections on Sunday. Soldiers armed with submachineguns today will be assigned to voting centers in the capital and in the interior. Other soldiers are distributing the materials that will be used for the elections -- the sixth to take place in the 25 years of Venezuelan democracy. Sunday's elections will select the country's president, the members of the National Parliament, and the members of the states' legislative assemblies.

In line with "Plan Republic" ["Plan Republica"], which is put into effect for every election of this nature, special guards have been posted at strategic points of the country as well as the newspapers and radio and television stations. Division General Andres Augustin Medina, of the Army's strategic command in the capital, has stated: "We are watching every point that some people could find attractive for carrying out terrorist activities aimed at disturbing calm and order during the elections." Defense Ministry sources have said that guards along the borders will be increased in the next few hours for the same reason.

The members of the Armed Forces, the police, and the security organizations have been called to quarters since yesterday, when the 8-month election campaign period -- which was characterized by a carnival-like spirit and an almost complete absence of violence -- concluded. A military officer added that the main task of the soldiers assigned to voting centers will be to assist the voters with the instructions and to make sure that the rule banning propaganda is respected.

Interior Minister Luciano Valero reiterated last night that the government will respect the election results. Minister Valero, after a meeting with Defense Minister General Humberto Alcalde Alvarez, told newsmen: "Whoever wins will be declared winner, even if he wins by only one vote."

Speaking at a dedication ceremony in the country's interior, President Luis Herrera Campins urged the people to go to the polls in an orderly fashion. He said: "This sixth visit of the people to the polls must be another ratification of our desire to consolidate and improve our democracy."

The 12 aspirants to the 5-year presidential term last night made a final appeal to the country's 7.7 million possible voters to fulfill their constitutional duty of voting.

Electoral Process Concluded

PA042058 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2018 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Caracas, 4 Dec (EFE) -- In accordance with the orders issued by the Supreme Electoral Court, the voting process to choose the new Venezuelan Government ended at 2200 GMT today. The situation of normalcy and the large voter turnout were the main characteristic of today's very important process to ensure the continuity of the democratic system in Venezuela.

Election Results

PA050350 [Editorial Report] Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish at 0333 GMT on 5 December transmits the following partial results of the 4 December presidential elections as "Information Bulletin No. 1" issued by the Supreme Electoral Council:

Rafael Caldera (Social Christian Party)	382
Jaime Lusinchi (Democratic Action)	677
Teodoro Petkoff (Movement Toward Socialism)	69
Jose Vicente Rangel (People's Unity Alliance)	53
Jorge Olavarria (National Opinion Party)	9
Andres Velasquez (Radical Cause)	0
Luis Enrique Rangel Burgoin (National Rescue Party)	3
Gonzalo Perez Hernandez (National Integration Movement)	9
Adolfo Alcala (Independent Voters)	0
Juan Luis Ibarra Riverol (Venezuelan Nationalist Party)	0
Alberto Solano (Emancipating Force)	1
Vinicio Romero (Electoral Confidence)	0
Felix Diaz Ortega (New Order)	0

Lusinchi Claims 58.2 Vote Percent

PA042200 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2129 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Caracas, 4 Dec (EFE) -- Jaime Lusinchi, the Social Democratic presidential candidate, announced this afternoon that he has won 58.2 percent of the votes in today's election. Lusinchi made the announcement of the initial partial results in a meeting with foreign legislators that was aired live by a television channel 20 minutes after the electoral polls closed.

The Democratic Action leader added that his party's data indicates that he obtained 58.2 percent of the vote, while his main adversary, Social Christian Rafael Caldera, obtained 28.9 percent. Lusinchi added that the other 12.9 percent is distributed among the other 10 candidates. He also indicated that the partial results contain a 2.6 percent margin of error.

Immediately after Lusinchi's announcement, Carlos Delgado Chapellin, president of the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE), spoke over radio and television to remind the media that partial results cannot be issued before the CSE officially releases them.

Lusinchi Declares Victory

PA050209 San Cristobal Ecos del Torbes in Spanish 0127 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Statement by Democratic Action presidential candidate Jaime Lusinchi at the Democratic Action headquarters in Caracas -- live]

[Text] Distinguished journalist friends: Through you, who have followed this great event today with professional interest, I want to send emotion-filled greetings to the Venezuelan people, whom I love so much and [words indistinct]. I think that at this time I am permitted to state that I am genuinely the president of the Republic. [applause, cheers]

However, due to absolutely essential respect, I must wait until the Supreme Electoral Council [CSE] proclaims this to be true. But since the council, in the exercise of its legal powers, has permitted communication, I will inform the country of the definite figures we have in our party's computer system, which we have named "Operation Satellite," and which has functioned perfectly. The figures that I have are as follows:

The "Operation Satellite 1983" computer belonging to the party's national secretariat of organization has been fed with certificates of elections corresponding to the votes at 8,362 polling stations, which correspond to 35 percent of the total, which is 24,135. Thus far, 2,423,666 votes have been counted, 31 percent of a total of 7,876,377 registered voters.

The results are as follows: Jaime Lusinchi: 1,185,888, 48 percent of the votes; Rafael Caldera: 698,303 votes, 28 percent of the votes.

Projecting this to 22,094 polling stations, or 91 percent of the stations, we can say that the result should be 3,457,859 votes for Jaime Lusinchi -- that is, 48 percent -- against 2,066,865 votes for Dr Rafael Caldera -- that is, 28 percent of the votes.

These figures, which we are permitted to disseminate by the decision of the CSE, clearly show the Venezuelan people's decision. I don't have anything to say at this time, other than to say that it is a Venezuelan triumph, a triumph for our people, a triumph for Venezuelan democracy.

Without any reservations on my part, I want to add my most sincere expression of respect and Venezuelan cordiality for the distinguished Venezuelan citizens who have competed with me in this race. I give my respect to them, which I express before the Venezuelan people with true sincerity and loyalty. The future will show how true my words at this time are. That is all I can say for now. Later, after the CSE makes the appropriate proclamation, I will be happy to speak to you and reply to all of your questions. Thank you very much. Long live Venezuela!

Rafael Caldera Concedes Defeat

PA050310 San Cristobal Ecos del Torbes in Spanish 0240 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Statement by Venezuelan COPEI presidential candidate Rafael Caldera; place not given

[Text] Although the official count is relatively low, the projections are clear. Therefore, I don't think that I should keep the country in uncertainty, as far as I'm concerned. I am willing to continue onward. I am a fighter. I believe I have done my duty by offering the Venezuelan people prospects for recovery and progress. My principle throughout this long struggle has been that the people never make a mistake. If they made their decision, I must accept and acknowledge it. Therefore, we will continue to move forward in the struggle. I will return to the status I held prior to the beginning of the electoral campaign, and I hope that the journalists will continue to be my friends, because they are essential to take the [words indistinct]. Thank you very much.

President Congratulates Lusinchi

PA050445 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 0346 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Address to the nation delivered by Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins from the Miraflores Presidential Palace in Caracas -- live]

[Excerpts] [Words indistinct] The Supreme Electoral Council has issued the first communique of official results. Although the figures issued by this high body are really very low and although the count is going very slowly, the information, nevertheless, that the national government and the media have clearly and decisively points to the presidential victory of Dr Jaime Lusinchi, and I thus recognize it before the Venezuelan people.

I want to congratulate the Venezuelan people for their behavior during this electoral process, and especially for the honorable, civic, and peaceful way that they acted on this culminating day of the vote. All of this shows us that Venezuela has taken intense advantage of the process that began on 23 January 1958 to raise the political culture and republican conscience. Second, I want to express recognition of the national Armed Forces for the success of "Operation Republic."

Democracy is a process of popular participation in which, many times, there is republican alternation, or changes of administration, as has occurred in this case. I recognize this as head of government and head of the legal state that prevails in Venezuela. I must state that I ask God to enlighten the new president so that he will succeed in selecting the officials that will work with him and guide him in the measures and steps he must adopt in the difficult circumstances being experienced by the fatherland, the continent, and the world.

I hope that the transition from this government to the new government elected by the people in today's elections will be carried out without any upheavals or commotion. Toward this end, I have issued direct instructions to the various government officials so that they will facilitate this task when it must be carried out in 1984.

I wish the new Venezuelan president the best of success in the exercise of his future functions, which are the greatest responsibility that any man in the country can receive as a result of the mandate of his people, for the well-being, prosperity, and happiness of all Venezuelans. Good night.

NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BRAZIL

PY012142 Paris AFP in Spanish 2051 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Caracas, 30 Nov (AFP) -- Today in Caracas, Brazil and Venezuela signed a supplementary agreement to the 1973 bilateral agreement for cooperation for peaceful purposes in the nuclear energy field. The agreement provides for cooperation in the research on the peaceful use of nuclear energy, the training of human resources, the exploitation of nuclear minerals, and the production of radio isotopes. The 5-year agreement, renewable each year thereafter, was signed at the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry by Brazilian ambassador to Caracas, Alfonso Arinos Mello-Franco, and by the acting Venezuelan Foreign Minister Oswaldo Paez Pumar.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTERS OF CONTADORA GROUP MEET

PA020438 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] The technical committee of the Contadora Group, comprised of the deputy foreign ministers of Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela, and Panama, plus five Central American deputy foreign ministers, is meeting in the Washington Room at the El Panama Hotel in Panama City. At this meeting, the deputy foreign ministers are analyzing the basic 21-point document approved by the governments of the Central American countries last September. Jose Maria Cabrera, Panamanian deputy foreign minister, reported on this meeting, which is being held prior to the meeting to include the Contadora Group and Central American foreign ministers, scheduled for 20 and 21 December in Panama City.

[Begin recording] [Jose Cabrera] We are making initial declarations, so we are still in a very preliminary phase, but in our opinion, the meeting appears to be very positive and constructive.

[First questioner] What basic document are you analyzing?

[Cabrera] The basic document we are studying is the Document of Objectives approved by the governments of the Central American countries in September.

[Second questioner] Is there a possibility that what we might call the first draft of a peace treaty for Central America could be formulated here at this time?

[Cabrera] That is a task that rests with the foreign ministers themselves. We will only develop ideas; we will put a few ideas down in black and white, and we will make a few suggestions and recommendations to the foreign ministers.

[First questioner] Are the latest Nicaraguan proposals included in your discussions?

[Cabrera] We are here to consider the proposals of all countries. [end recording]

Prepare Draft Peace Treaty

PA030225 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Panama City, DPA -- The draft of the Central American peace agreement or pact is now ready, after the conclusion of the Contadora Group technical committee sessions. The committee worked for 3 days during which they thoroughly analyzed the various points to be included in the peace agreement. The draft will be reviewed by the Contadora Group foreign ministers -- Bernardo Sepulveda, Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, Jose Alberto Zambrano, and Oyden Ortega, of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama, respectively.

The Contadora Group will call a (special) meeting [words indistinct] to sign the agreement [words indistinct] Venezuelan Oswaldo Paez Pumar, Panamanian Jose Maria Cabrera Mexican Ricardo Valero, and Colombian Julio Londono, with advisers from the governments of the Central American countries.

Oyden Ortega said that the nine foreign ministers will meet in Panama City during the third week of December and that, hopefully, the peace agreement will be signed. The agreement includes the following points: withdrawal of foreign advisers from Central America, inventory of weapons in each country, elimination of arms trafficking, specific measures for democratization, and effective control of border regions.

Three Commissions Formed

PA030338 Paris AFP in Spanish 0246 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 2 Dec (AFP) -- The deputy foreign ministers of the Contadora Group and Central America today agreed in Panama to form three working commissions to hasten the peace negotiations in Central America, a source linked to the Honduran Foreign Ministry announced here. According to the Honduran source, these commissions will promote agreements for the signing of a "global and regional" peace treaty.

In this manner, the analysis of the 21 objectives put forth last September by the Contadora Group in an effort to find peace in the region will be divided into three work areas: political aspects, security aspects, and economic and social aspects of the Central American crisis. Furthermore, the deputy foreign ministers, comprising the technical group, agreed that the mechanisms for control and verification should be studied after agreements have been reached on the issues in conflict.

The creation of such commissions and the assigning of their functions was proposed by Honduras last September and ratified at the last meeting; the position was approved by all the representatives of Central America, including Nicaragua, the source said.

Havana on Proposals

PA031855 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Today Nicaragua will present to the commission of the so-called Contadora Group experts three new peace proposals that include a document of commitment on military topics, a draft declaration on domestic policy, and a draft agreement on the socioeconomic development of Central America. This was announced by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto when he appeared before his country's State Council to explain Sandinist foreign policy.

These three proposals and another four issued in October cover the 21 points of the declaration of objectives of the so-called Contadora Group, composed of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama, aimed at finding a peaceful solution for Central Aemrican conflicts.

D'Escoto said that the positions of the United States and the Contadora Group toward solving the crisis of the region do not agree. D'Escoto said: Negotiations are not enough for Washington, and it is trying to impose its wishes by force, through military intervention.

Havana Notes Meeting End

PA040400 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] The Contadora's Group's deputy foreign ministers have concluded a technical meeting in Panama City with their Central American counterparts, but they did not provide any information about their discussions or the meeting's results. Last Thursday, Panamainian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera reported that the participants would examine the Document of Objectives that was approved in September by the nine countries' foreign ministers and later ratified by their government.

The technical meeting coincided with the presence in Panama City of Richard Stone, U.S. special envoy for Central America, who met in the Panamanian capital with the chief leaders of the counterrevolutionaries who, with support from Washington, are attacking Nicaragua. Stone and the rebel leaders admitted to the Panamanian press that they met in an attempt to unify the various anti-Sandinist forces, a fact viewed by observers as a new link in the escalation of aggression against Nicaragua that could become yet another obstacle to the Contadora Group's efforts to secure peace.

COSTA RICA

NEW FOREIGN MINISTER ON CONTADORA, RELATIONS

PA041309 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] New Foreign Minister Armando Arauz Aguilar has held his first meeting with newsmen. He called this a traditional event and said that talks with reporters will continue as usual at the Foreign Ministry. He said he is optimistic about the efforts that have been made [words indistinct] the new meeting of foreign ministers to be held in Panama on 28 December [as heard] and added that the Contadora Group is the new architect of the future of Central America. Arauz Aguilar said that an important document will be completed in December. This document will provide an outline for the future of Central America. He remarked that unilateral and multilateral treaties will be discussed in principle in the Panama session.

Asked about Nicaragua's sincerity within the Contadora Group, the new foreign minister said that this must be handled [words indistinct] a confrontation of ideas must take place, a single document must be issued, and, finally, it must be recognized and accepted by all involved. He said that the people's self-determination is unquestionable, calling it the backbone of the document that will be issued after the Contadora foreign ministers meet in Panama on 28 December [as heard].

The Costa Rican Government, through the new foreign minister, stressed its rejection of relations with the DPRK. [sentence indistinct] The Costa Rican Government has decided to declare it inadvisable [words indistinct] relations with the DPRK.

Arauz Aguilar said that he doesn't have exact information on the possibility of Fernando Volio Jimenez' occupying a government post. He said that Volio is a very valuable asset and the government must not miss the chance to use his services.

He also said that as soon as there is a demarcation of the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan territories, there will be an end to the border problems. He said that, for unknown reasons, the border commission has not been working, and he talked about the need to establish border limits. He also referred to an upcoming meeting of the joint commission composed of the deputy [word indistinct] ministers. The meeting will be held at President Monge's decision. Costa Rica will demand border demarcation in order to end the problems.

ISRAELIS SAID AIDING INTELLIGENCE TRAINING

PA041729 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Deputy Security Minister Johnny Campos has said that Israel is helping train Costa Ricans in the complex intelligence field. He said that Israeli instructors are training Costa Ricans so that they may provide personal security for important dignitaries.

Campos added that Costa Rica receives no other kind of help in the military field. He categorically denied that civil guards receive military training, stressing that Israel provides training in technical and intelligence fields, along with training to ensuring personal security for dignitaries, without specifying names.

EL SALVADOR

D'AUBUISSON VIEWS VISA DENIAL, PARTIES COALITION

PA031521 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1645 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Excerpts] YSU reporters yesterday visited the Constituent Assembly in order to obtain a statement from its president, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, on topics of interest to the Salvadoran people, particularly after learning that the U.S. Government denied a visa to Maj D'Aubuisson. We also brought up Articles 104 and 105, to be discussed today, and a possible coalition of the Nationalist Revlutionary Alliance, ARENA, with other parties, including the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party, PAISA, and the Salvadoran Popular Party.

Questioned by YSU reporters, Maj D'Aubuisson emphatically denied having requested a visa to travel officially to the United States. He noted that he had traveled to the United States on several occasions this year for personal reasons. This year, however, I have not requested a visa as president of the Assembly, he said. I am surprised at the way this information has been handled. Among other things, Maj D'Aubuisson charged that the incident is a part of a campaign to discredit not only him, but the entire process underway in the country. He added that, for the moment, he has no plans to travel officially to the United States. Here is his statement:

[Begin recording] This is a misinformation maneuver because at no time have I requested an official visa to travel to the United States. Whoever started this rumor is lying. When I refer to an official visa, I mean for travel as a deputy or president of the Assembly. I have gone to the United States three or four times this year on private visits. I am surprised at this information, about which I know nothing because I made no such request. It is a malicious report because it links me to a visa denial for Tomas Borge, about which I also know nothing. It is a campaign designed to discredit not only me as a person but the party, the Constituent Assembly, and even the image of the Salvadoran people. [end recording]

Maj D'Aubuisson was also asked about statements by U.S. Government spokesmen linking him to the death squads, to which he replied: [Begin recording] This is part of their deceitful campaign. Whenever they cannot prove something, they try to discredit you. It is not the Reagan administration, but two or three members of the State Department who said this, and the leftist U.S. press has just blown it up. [end recording]

A YSU reporter at the Constituent Assembly also asked Maj D'Aubuisson to comment on the controversial debate of the second part of the Agrarian Reform Bill, Articles 104 and 105 of which are still under discussion and which, according to the Presidendcy of the Assembly, are to be discussed at the plenum. He said:

[Begin recording] Concerning Articles 104 and 105, we have already reached an understanding, with the exception of a few differences over the interpretation of the text, such as the words peasants and farmers, on which we are already working. [end recording]

He also referred to the possiblity that ARENA and other parties, such as PAISA and the Salvadoran Popular Party, could create a coalition which, according to him, is still being discussed with good possibilities.

The following is his answer: [Begin recording] There has been no decision yet since we must wait for the party's decision in a general assembly and a general discussion with the other parties. The doors are already open for negotiations, but we must wait for the decision of the party's convention. [end recording]

MEZA DELGADO TO BE DUARTE'S RUNNING MATE

PA021339 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] This morning Roberto Meza Delgado of the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, resigned as acting vice president of the Central Electoral Council, CCE, a reliable source has reported. Meza Delgado became acting vice president of the CCE after Rafael Angel Hasbun submitted his resignation as president 2 days ago and Armando Rodriguez Eguizabal, of the National Conciliation Party, assumed the presidency.

In his letter of resignation, Roberto Meza Delgado said that he will run for vice president for the PDC, accompanying Jose Napoleon Duarte. Only two members have remained in the CCE: Armando Rodriguez Eguizabal, of the PCN, and Eliseo Rovira, of the PSS [Salvadoran Popular Party].

OFFICIALS CRITICIZE DEATH SQUAD ACTIVITIES

Chavez Mena Comments

PA021205 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Interview with Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena by unidentified reporter during a courtesy visit to Radio Cadena Sonora on 1 December 1983 -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Behind the scenes while you were in Washington, did any U.S. official make comments regarding [Jose Napoleon] Duarte's statement on a subject that affects us all -- the death squads?

[Chavez Mena] I might say that during our stay in Washington I read material in the U.S. press, and I noticed that there was some criticism of the kind of activities carried out by the death squads. Of course, this criticism is justified, as these groups contribute to the increasing violence in our country. I think that Salvadorans should try to be rational in our political actions, and should abandon violence.

[Reporter] Apparently, in order for the Contadora Group to achieve its objectives, both the left and the right seem to be receiving pressure. A few days ago, U.S. Ambassador Pickering said at the American Chamber [Camara Americana] that he opposes the attitude of the death squads. What is your opinion on his statement?

[Chavez Mena] I am not trying to avoid the question, but I must tell you frankly that, since I have been out of the country, I have no knowledge of any such statement by Ambassador Pickering. Nevertheless, I will comment on the subject in general terms. Obviously, I think that our image abroad has improved considerably. The fact that El Salvador has been given the OAS presidency clearly reflects the desire for a hemispheric solution. I recently toured Europe, and I can say that knowledge of our country and political support for the Salvadoran democratic process are increasing daily. People are responding more enthusiastically, and they have a better understanding of our problems.

One of the main problems that we must solve concerns the kind of violent actions carried out by the so-called death squads, or by any other organization, since they badly tarnish our image abroad. In addition to tarnishing our image abroad, these actions also harm something that is vital: internal social and political peace, the need for all Salvadorans to live in peace and to discuss our problems on the basis of political reasoning. I think that an essential element here in El Salvador is tolerance; we must make tolerance our real norm of conduct in order to live in harmony.

Within this context, I certainly and sincerely believe that the media also have an important role in this, as they provide orientation for public opinion; they guide popular sentiment. Therefore, I think that it is important at this time to guide public opinion toward a sentiment that is very clear and that is shared by the people; namely, the desire to reduce passions and to diminish the psychological-social or psychological-cultural attitude that favors violence. It is time for all Salvadorans to start showing more tolerance, and in this sense, I believe that the media have an important role. Many experts believe that peace is closely related to the psychological attitude of the people. If this concept is absolutely true, I think that the media have an influential role.

Vides Casanova Remarks

PA041254 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Excerpt of speech by Salvadoran Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova at a ceremony to honor two U.S. advisers; date, place not given -- recorded]

[Text] Death squads must disappear forever as a result of our decision to fight them and because of our faith in the democratic process. All Salvadorans must persecute them and report them so that their existence will not only be illegitimate but will also be condemned by all. We must say in a single voice that no cause can justify their existence, because those who resort to ignoble actions are mindless and are trying to subjugate us through force and terror. The fact that the enemy uses treacherous and illegal means cannot justify anyone's going beyond legal and moral barriers in an attempt to impose his own ideas through fear.

For these reasons, I want to state the firm decision of the Armed Forces to bring before the law the members of those terrorist bands -- whoever they may be and whatever reasons they might give to justify their illegal activity. This will be done in the fulfillment of our duty to the Salvadoran people, who are our only concern.

Democracy cannot exist with terror because the one denies the other. We either respect the people and the law, or we will have the law of the jungle and will probably lose democracy and will succumb as a nation that wanted freedom.

Our Armed Forces exist because there is a people we must protect. There should be no abuse of authority, because this would go against the essence of the Armed Forces' mission. To avoid this, the conduct of the Armed Forces is thoroughly and clearly regulated, including various situations in which our prestige, mission, and sincerity may be involved. All military members should make this a creed for their actions.

In certain media, I have read reports about the death squads in which attempts are made to justify illegal actions and in which this ministry is warned not to interfere in their evil activities. I say to them that I will never agree to the inhuman and illegal methods they are trying to use. I know perfectly well the duties and responsibilities of my post, and nothing and no one will deter me from them.

RADIO FARABUNDO MARTI ON REGIME RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

PA031723 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Here is a brief report on the most recent human rights violations committed by the dictatorship's Army against the people: Six peasants, including a 2-month-old infant, were murdered by soldiers of the 1st Infantry Brigade on 20 November when troops trained by the Yankees entered (Aserradera) canton, El Paisnal jurisdiction, north of San Salvador. Before killing them in cold blood, the henchmen of San Carlos Garrison destroyed the peasants' belongings.

On 21 November, after the puppet troops had been defeated near Amayo, they destroyed nine peasant dwellings during their retreat. They vented their anger on the people.

The proven inability of the puppet Army's troops is forcing the high fascist command to resort to using the Air Force to punish the civilian population. On 21 November two enemy planes fired rockets on a group of workers who were loading corn on a truck in Jutiapa, Cabanas Department. Jose Rocha, Domingo Melendez, and Arturo Galdanez were killed in this cowardly and unjustified attack. Two other workers received shrapnel wounds in the legs.

Elite battalions trained by the Yankees have continued to attack civilians. On 26 November the unsuccessful Belloso Battalion entered San Jacinto, south of San Vicente, with the sole intention of burning houses and destroying the crops of peasants in that sector.

These are the human rights Ronald Reagan claims to respect. The new Yankee tactics establish that the top fascist command must increase air missions to punish and repress civilians.

On 27 November an A-7 plane fired approximately 12 rockets on civilian towns near Las Huertas in Chalatenango Department. Also in the San Agustin region, Usulutan Department, A-7 and push-and-pull planes dropped more than 30 bombs and rockets indiscriminately in order to frighten (?townspeople). This indiscriminate and cowardly air attack was carried out on 1 and 2 December.

The dictatorship and the top fascist command have received precise instructions from the U.S. advisers to punish and to frighten civilians. On 27 November, the puppet Army launched a large artillery attack on northern Morazan Department, killing two persons, including a 9-month-old child, in Torola. Ten people were also wounded, all of them civilians.

Yankee advisers have ordered that civilians be made targets on Chichontepec Volcano, San Vicente Department. On 30 November the civilians on the volcano were victims of an indiscriminate attack carried out with mortar shells fired from a military training camp located on Ramirez Hill, where new Cazadores Battalion troops are being trained.

This is how the dictatorship respects the Salvadoran people's human rights. The weapons Reagan sends to the bloody dictatorship serve to massacre the people.

Our people demand a stop to repression. The cowardly criminal, Domingo Monterrosa, who is directly responsible for killings in San Nicolas, Copapayo, and La Escopeta, ordered his accomplices of the death squads to kill Santiago Vitelio Ama as a reprisal because Ama was [words indistinct].

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT REPLACES DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER

PA021530 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1949 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Guatemala, 1 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Deputy Defense Minister Colonel Carlos Enrique Vides Reinoso today was dismissed from his post and replaced by Colonel Raul Alburez Arriola. This was reported by an official source, who added that Col Vides Reinoso "will retire soon." Chief of State and Defense Minister General Oscar Mejia Victores swore in the new official.

OFFICIAL NOTES CLOSING OF SALVADORAN BORDER

PA031348 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The Guatemalan deputy economy minister has said that the closing of the Salvadoran border was expected. He confirmed that, in fact, the Salvadoran border has been closed to Guatemalan products in response to a measure recently applied by the [Guatemalan] Government regulating commercial trade between the two countries. The government official said that Guatemala had been expecting a similar reaction from El Salvador, since closing the borders will promote a meeting between authorities of the two countries to put an end to the problem.

The deputy minister added that sometimes when direct measures such as these are adopted people begin to speculate, and that this is what creates problems. The official added that, undoubtedly, the closing of the border between El Salvador and Guatemala will seriously affect the economies of the two countries. However, he stressed, the two parties should negotiate and reach an agreement. Bilateral or multilateral talks are very fruitful and positive in these cases, he said.

International reforms are necessary, but economic institutions should also be reformed to seek new economic measures that will benefit all, the deputy minister concluded.

HONDURAS

SURPRISE EXPRESSED OVER EXCLUSION FROM CBI

PA021932 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Excerpts] When listing the 11 countries that will obtain priority benefit from the Caribbean Basin Initiative [CBI] yesterday, President Ronald Reagan did not mention Honduras. It was reported in Washington that Honduras has been temporarily excluded from the Caribbean Basin plan.

The Honduran Government expressed surprise on learning that Honduras is not included on the list of the 11 countries to receive priority support in the CBI. The government is unaware of the reason for this exclusion, because it believes that it has met the requirements for receiving the aid, such as the approval of various laws in the National Congress. Nevertheless, it has been pointed out that the country has already received initial help with a grant of 70 million lempiras to support the balance of payments. Here is a report by newsman Douglas Membreno, who has the reaction of Luis Flores Escobar, executive secretary of the CONSUPLANE [Higher Council of Economic Planning]

[Begin recording] [Membreno] What does the government think of the fact that Honduras is not included on the list of 11 countries that will receive priority treatment when the CBI is implemented?

[Flores Escobar] It is really surprising. When the Kissinger commission visited the country, we said that we were in the process of fulfilling all the requirements for benefiting from the CBI. I imagine that some detail has been overlooked in the process of obtaining the benefits and that at the last moment something will happen to permit inclusion of Honduras among the beneficiaries of that program. There is a list of points or principles that all the countries benefiting from the program have to fulfill. For example, some of the points we discussed were the country's becoming a member of UNCTAD or CATT and congressional approval of the investment treaty and export law. We have done some of these things and are in the process of undertaking others.

[Membreno] Carlos Montoya, vice president of the Congress, recently said that international financial organizations were afraid to approve financial assistance for Honduras because of warmongering statements made by some Honduran officials and military officers when they were abroad. Could this have resulted in Honduras being excluded?

[Flores Escobar] No, I don't think so, because organizations like the IDB and the World Bank have regulations and requirements for a country to benefit from financing and technical assistance and none of them include such a concept. [end recording]

Press Office Denies Exclusion

PA041401 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Honduras will be included in the second group of countries to benefit from the Reagan plan for the Caribbean and Central America, which is to be approved before Christmas. The director of the Honduran Government International Press Office, Amilcar Santamaria, explained that the fact that Honduras was not included in the first group does not mean it has been excluded from the Reagan plan.

We will now listen to Santamaria, who initially refers to Honduras' participation in the 7th Caribbean and Central American Conference held this week in the United States:

[Begin recording] To begin with, it is interesting to note that our delegation was very large. Contrary to some preliminary meetings, in which the Honduran delegation was rather small, over 50 Hondurans from both public and private sectors were present and actively participated in the various phases of the conference this time.

I would like to raise a point which I think is of interest to you because it received wide coverage in today's newspapers. Quoting a dispatch from Washington, the newspapers reported that Honduras had been excluded from the Caribbean Basin Initiative. I think it is worthwhile to clarify this in order to avoid confusion.

What has happened is that a first group of beneficiary countries has been approved, with a second group to be approved before Christmas. Honduras will most certainly be included in that second group. Since the law will become effective on 1 January 1984, it obviously makes no difference whether we are included in the first or second group. [end recording]

SUAZO ANSWERS ORTEGA LETTER ON CONDECA

PA021811 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Dec 83 p 5

[Letter sent by Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova to Nicaraguan Government Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega Saavedra on 28 November]

[Text] Mr Coordinator: I am addressing you to acknowledge receipt of your note, dated 22 November 1983, in which you expressed the deep concern of your people and government over the illegal reactivation of the Central American Defense Council (CONDECA) under the pretense of providing a juridical-political excuse for a possible act of aggression against Nicaragua.

I will begin by explaining that finding a justification for the other Central American countries to carry out an eventual aggression against Nicaragua has never been the purpose of the various meetings held to review a possible reactivation of CONDECA. On the contrary, the violence unleashed on the isthmus by totalitarian and expansionist forces points out the need to review the juridical situation of several regional instruments designed to defend peace and democracy in Central America.

I do not think this is the best time to make legal decisions about either the obligations of the member-states or the applicability of the ODECA [Organization of Central American States] Charter, of which CONDECA is the consultative body in matters of regional defense and collective security.

However, we find it highly satisfactory to learn of the illustrious Nicaraguan Government's seeming willingness to remain within the subregional organizations and to continue to endorse the Central American isthmus' defense objectives against all kinds of aggression, especially that directed by the international communist movement.

Mr Coordinator, I regard your apprehensions about a possible act of aggression by Honduras as unjustified, since I can proudly say that ever since I assumed power, by the freely expressed will of the majority of the Honduran people, my greatest concern has been to preserve domestic tranquillity through compliance with the law and promotion of international peace on the basis of respect and mutual understanding. Proof of this is my government's sincere and active participation in the Contadora Group in an effort to achieve formulas of reconciliation that may guarantee fraternal coexistence among all Central American countries.

However, I wish to make it perfectly clear that, in the unfortunate event of my country's peace and security being threatened by external forces, my government will not hesitate to resort to the individual and collective means of defense established in the UN Charter and in the various instruments comprising the inter-American system.

Mr Coordinator, I beg you to accept the renewed testimony of my highest consideration.

NICARAGUA

STATE COUNCIL FINAL SESSION HELD IN MANAGUA

PA042358 [Editorial Report] Managua Domestic Service in Spanish at 2317 GMT on 4 December begins live coverage, via a national network, of the State Council final session in Managua.

At 2327 GMT, Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council, arrives, accompanied by representatives of the Council.

At 2330 GMT, Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Government Junta; Rafael Cordova Rivas and Sergio Ramirez Mercado, members of the Junta; Tomas Borge, minister of the interior; representatives of the National Directorate; the president of the Supreme Court; and representatives of the Supreme Court arrive.

The master of ceremonies begins to speak, at 2331 GMT. He notes that the State Council meeting is being presided over by Daniel Ortega, and notes foreign guests present at the session, including Jose Figueres, former Costa Rican president and roving ambassador; the president of the Colombian Senate Foreign Relations Committee; members of the Costa Rican Assembly; and other foreign guests. After a roll call of State Council members, the master of ceremonies opens the State Council session at 2340 GMT.

At 2341 GMT, Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the State Council, speaks. He states that the old axiom of preparing for war if you want peace remains valid in Nicaragua. This is so because Nicaragua must defend itself from present and future attacks launched at U.S. initiative. Nicaragua, he says, "must prepare the conditions to achieve peace." Preparing to achieve peace, and ensuring that it will be a complete peace, is often more difficult than preparing for war, he notes.

Nunez Tellez then notes the twofold role of the State Council in uniting the Nicaraguan people and consolidating the achievements of the revolution: giving an ordered base to guarantee and satisfy the aspirations of the people, and making achievements of the revolution known and accepted by all the Nicaraguan people in a process of "true and profound democratization." The purpose of this is to give the revolution a base of deep, popular roots. Thus, the State Council participates in the institutionalization of the revolutionary process in Nicaragua.

Nunez Tellez continues by noting the historically difficult discussion of democratization and institutionalization in Nicaragua. Democracy in the country was nothing but a word, he states. The Nicaraguan State Council practically had to start from nothing in fulfilling the tasks of institutionalization.

Nunez Tellez continues by reviewing various factors which show the disposition of the government relative to institutionalization -- the 1981 Junta initiative setting the 1985 elections, the special commission working on the political parties law, and the 4 May 1983 start of the current State Council session. Despite the difficulties confronting this session related to U.S. strategy directed against Nicaragua, it has nevertheless "centered its legislative efforts on the democratic institutionalization of defense and production." After discussing the political parties law and the Patriotic Military Service Bill, Nunez Tellez states that it is the firm conviction of the revolution that man is capable of changing, recently witnessed by the decree extending amnesty to the Miskitos and others. Since the United States disapproved the amnesty measure, Nunez Tellez asks if Nicaragua faces "a power truly concerned over finding the political solutions to the problems of the area, or a small group of officials who, in the name of democracy, seek the right to dominate others?"

Nunez Tellez then discusses mixed State Council-political parties commissions formed to gather information on various political and electoral systems. He mentions the commissions that visited Mexico, Colombia, and Peru, and the commission that went to the United States as part of an effort "to counteract the volume of incorrect information spread throughout the U.S. media, and thus rectify the erroneous image created by such misinformation." Nunez Tellez cites various instances of Nicaraguan delegations abroad as part of a decision that the State Council should participate more on the international level.

At 0112 GMT, Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Government Junta, speaks. Ortega states that the FSLN issued a statement on elections in 1980, which he then reads.

Ortega says that one year after the revolution it was felt backwardness was so great that there could be no reconstruction before 1985. By 1985, the people must choose the best individuals to continue the tasks of the revolution. To realize this, in January 1984 the Government Junta will begin the electoral process by which the Nicaraguan people will decide what government will continue the work of the revolution. Ortega then reads two Governmental Junta decrees. The first establishes that the electoral process will begin on 31 January 1984, with the date for elections to be determined by the Junta and announced on 21 February 1984. The second states that to create the necessary conditions for Nicaraguans to participate in the electoral process, the following will be implemented: Citizens who left the country after 19 July 1979 and who were involved in illegal activities, even armed activities, will receive amnesty, be able to return to the country, and be able to vote and run for office. the consulates of Nicaragua in the United States, Honduras, and Costa Rica will issue safe conduct passes for those who accept amnesty. Excluded from the benefits of the amnesty are Somozist guardsmen involved in repressive actions who have not been tried, the counterrevolutionary leaders who have planned terrorist actions against Nicaragua, and ranking counterrevolutionary leaders who have asked for foreign intervention against Nicaragua.

Daniel Ortega continues by saying that the principles contained in the decrees, just as the recent amnesty extended to the Miskitos, are intended to facilitate the construction of a new society. The current strength of Nicaragua allows the government to give those who wish the chance to return to the country.

He adds that in order to ensure lasting peace in the Central American region, the United States must agree not to use force against countries of the area or intervene in their internal affairs. For its part, Nicaragua has made several proposals regarding immediate withdrawal of bases, a halt to arms trafficking and arms purchases in the region, immediate withdrawal of foreign advisers, and supervision to ensure compliance with these provisions. These measures cannot be taken by Nicaragua alone, they must be taken by all the countries of Central America.

Regarding internal affairs in Nicaragua, Ortega states that "the peoples have the inalienable right to choose their own laws as part of their right to freely choose their own political and social system." With regard to economic matters, he says, Nicaragua "maintains its willingness to develop Central American integration, international trade, foreign cooperation, and security of food and medical supplies." After affirming the need to strengthen the Contadora Group, Ortega concludes his address at 0144 GMT.

Junta Decrees Read

PA050325 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0111 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Decrees issued by the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction on 4 December 1983, read by Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega Saavedra at the session adjourning the fourth legislative period of the Nicaraguan State Council in Managua -- live]

[Excerpt] The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction

Whereas:

In accordance with Decree No 503 issued on 10 September 1980, the electoral process through which Nicaraguans will choose the government that will continue rebuilding the new Nicaragua will begin.

Despite the difficult situation confronting the nation as a result of imperialist aggression, the FSLN and the Nicaraguan Government wish the necessary steps to be taken toward the electoral process. Therefore, in exercise of its powers, it decrees:

Article 1: The electoral process will begin on 31 January 1984, as specified in Decree 503 issued on 10 September 1980.

Article 2: To conclude the debate and approval of the electoral law and other laws and regulations that comprise the legal framework of the electoral process, the State Council, via this decree, is summoned to extraordinary sessions as of 4 January 1984. The State Council will meet uninterruptedly until its normal legislative period begins.

Article 3: The proselytizing activities associated with elections will be authorized by the competent electoral organization contemplated within the electoral law.

Article 4: The date for the elections will be decided by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and will be announced 21 February 1984.

Article 5: This decree will become effective at the time of its publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Managua, 4 December 1983, year of the struggle for peace and sovereignty.

Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction

Second Decree

PA050330 [Excerpt] The first decree is complemented by a second decree:

The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction

Whereas:

1. The revolutionary government wishes to guarantee the normal development of the electoral process, which will culminate in elections in 1985, and which begins on 31 January 1984, in accordance with the provisions of Decree No 503 of 10 September 1980;

2. The current U.S. Administration is promoting a cunning campaign of armed actions, mainly through the genocidal Somozist Guard, against the Sandinist people's revolution and its desire to guarantee internal democracy and pluralism;

3. Despite these actions, the revolutionary government wants to create the necessary conditions to permit the participation of the greatest possible number of Nicaraguans in the electoral process; therefore, in the exercise of its powers, it decrees:

Article 1: The nationals who left the country any time after 19 July 1979, including those who involved themselves in illegal activities against public order, even armed activities, will have all the guarantees that this decree confers on them to return to the country and to join in the civic life and the electoral process, with full right to elect and be elected.

Article 2: The Nicaraguan consulates in the United States, Honduras, and Costa Rica will issue the respective safe-conducts to the nationals who wish to accept the benefits of this decree.

Article 3: The national involved themselves in the activities of the counterrevolutionary bands organized from abroad, once they lay down their weapons, in addition to obtaini g the respective safe-conducts, will have the option of joining the agrarian reform land distribution programs. In the case of agricultural landowners who abandoned their lands, lands which have been seized, these will be returned or duly compensated for. In the cases included in this article, the safe-conducts can also be granted by delegates of the Interior Ministry in the respective zones.

Article 4: The following are excluded from the benefits and guarantees granted to the persons to which Articles 1 and 3 of this decree refer:

A. The officers of the defunct National and members of the Somozist security involved in repressive acts and who have not been arraigned before the courts of justice.

B. Those who have been condemned in penal processes for acts against public order and security and who have not received a resolution of pardon approved by the State Council.

C. The counterrevolutionary chiefs leaders who have requested the intervention of a foreign power in Nicaragua, and the granting of funds by the same foreign power to finance counterrevolutionary actions in Nicaragua, or who have accepted those funds.

D. The counterrevolutionary chiefs and leaders who have directed or planned terrorist acts to harm the Nicaraguan po lation or the country's economic resources.

Article 5: The people who wish to accept the benefits and uarantees of this decree will have an initial period that begins at the time of publication of the decree and ends on 21 ebruary 1984.

Article 6: The provisions of this decree do not affect those contained in the Agrarian Reform Law or those of Decrees No 782 and 1352.

Article 7: T is decree will become ffective upon its publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Issued in Managua on 4 December 1983, year of struggle for peace and sovereignty.

Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction

'IMPORTANT' ANNOUNCEMENTS PROMISED AFTER SESSION

PA032319 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2131 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Announcements important to the nation's political life will be made tomorrow by the government Junta at the final session of the State Council's fourth legislative period, according to Junta member Doctor Sergio Ramirez Mercado. Dr Ramirez also indicated that important aspects of the revolutionary government's international Dr Ramirez Mercado made his statement at an assembly of professionals for peace and sovereignty, held at noon at the Dorado Theater. Here is the Government Junta member's statement:

[Begin recording] Tomorrow, upon the adjourn of the State Council's sessions, the Government Junta will make important announcements that involve the future of the democratic and electoral processes in Nicaragua.

It will also make announcements involving the peace process that we are determined to carry out, both nationally and internationally.

The previously declared amnesty for ethnic groups already constitutes an important step in Nicaragua's advance toward peace and is a means of depriving the enemy of any sort of tool for political publicity that it intended to use against the revolution.

We have been hearing that people, groups, and parties in the opposition have established as a requirement that they will talk with the FSLN or the revolutionary government only in the presence of foreign organizations or governments. To this we must respond that, under the terms by which we view the national unity, sovereignty, independence, and autonomy of Nicaragua, as General Sandino called it, these proposals not only ignore the facts, but the decorum and dignity of our nation as well. Nicaragua's domestic order and its political, governmental, and electoral systems are not subject to transactions that are foreign to the Nicaraguan people, nor can they be made the subject of treaties. [applause] [end recording]

Steps To Ease Tension Taken

PA040330 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2303 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Managua, 3 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Less than 24 hours before the Sandinist leaders will explain how the 1985 elections are to take place, expectation in the country is growing as to the details of how the elections will proceed.

Sergio Ramirez, a member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, declared that tomorrow, Sunday, "important" announcements on the future of the electoral process and of peace in the nation will be made.

Before explaining how the 1985 elections will take place, the Managua government has decided to make the censorship that the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA in this capital undergoes more flexible. The government has also reestablished a dialogue with Catholic Church leaders, which was interrupted last March after Pope John Paul II visited the country.

According to Sergio Ramirez' statement this afternoon, another event that "contributes to the achievement of peace" is the amnesty that was decreed for Nicaraguans of Miskito origin who committed "counterrevolutionary" crimes from 1 December 1981 to 1 December 1983.

It has also been learned that the Supreme Court of Justice has nullified the trail of a group of "counterrevolutionaries" who had been accused of organizing a plot to kill some Sandinist leaders.

FPR LEADER LOOKS TOWARD ELECTORAL PROCESS

PA031451 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Excerpts] In approximately 48 hours, Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, will close the fourth legislative period of the State Council. There is expectation about what he will say concerning the electoral process, which will begin in 1984 and will end with the 1985 election. We talked with Doctor Gustavo Tablada, coordinator of the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, FPR, about this expectation and about what is being done to see that the process continues in the next 2 years.

[Begin recording] [Tablada] While 4 December marks the end of our State Council's legislative period, we will continue with the task which, for practical purposes, started in October 1982. The FPR made a proposal to encourage the political institutionalization process of the revolution.

It is unfortunate, however, that this process has been systematically obstructed by the unreasonable actions of Mr Reagan's government. Anyway, both our government for national reconstruction and the revolutionary forces organized in the FPR insist on the need to pursue this task. There is a sincere desire to move the revolutionary process toward the search for a permanent and stable peace. This is the will of practically all the Nicaraguan people and the FPR; this was stated during the interview we had with the State Council's special emergency commission. We wish to continue with the institutionalization process.

We are on the verge of starting this phase of the process, following the approval of the political parties law. We will now begin to discuss and analyze everything concerning the electoral process, which will culminate in the elections in 1985. The revolutionary government's position concerning the search for peace and its support for the Contadora Group's efforts will be maintained on that momentous day -- which will be highly significant for the country's political life.

[Unidentified reporter] Doctor, do you believe that a process - we might call it a conversion process -- will start on 4 December at the national level with the participation of the parties organized in the FPR and the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democrating Coordinating Board?

[Tablada] First of all, we must establish the difference between the two activities related to the elections. First, we have the electoral process in general; second, we have the electoral campaign itself. What we now have in Nicaragua is the discussion of the electoral law, its procedures, and all the characteristics of such an event. The electoral campaign will be announced later; it is then that we will start our conversion work, the propaganda, and the activities to encourage the people to participate in the electoral process. [end recording]

ORTEGA LEAVES FOR 24-HOUR VISIT TO PERU

PA021458 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1248 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Managua, 2 Dec (DPA) -- Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, left this morning for a 24-hour visit to Peru. Ortega was seen off at Managua's Sandino Airport by the other two members of the Government Junta, Rafael Cordova Rivas and Sergio Ramirez, and high-ranking FSLN leaders. It was announced in Managua that Ortega will met with Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry to discuss the "Central American situation." President Belaunde Terry will hold a luncheon for the Nicaraguan leader, who in turn will host a reception.

Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto and several other ministers are accompanying Ortega. Commander Ortega should return to Managua after fulfilling his official program of activities in Lima, which he is visiting at the Peruvian president's invitation. Ortega will attend the closing of the fourth legislative period of the Nicaraguan State Council on Sunday.

Before traveling to Lima, Ortega and the other members of the Government Junta signed an amnesty decree benefiting 14,000 Nicaraguans, mostly Miskito Indians, involved in or condemned for rebel activities.

Holds News Conference on Return

PA040425 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0136 GMT 4 Dec 83

[News conference held by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, upon his return from Peru, at the Hall of Flags at Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport -- live]

[Text] [Ortega] Good evening to the Nicaraguan people and to the newsmen who are present here. We have returned from a brief but very busy trip to Peru, where we had the opportunity to witness the solidarity shown by the Peruvian people, the political forces of Peru, and the Peruvian Government.

As you know, we met with President Belaunde Terry, the Senate president, the leaders of the various political forces, and the mayor of Lima during this visit. We truly had a very good series of contacts with leaders of various social, political, economic, and even religious sectors in Peru. This afternoon we visited the Peruvian regional centers of the Maryknoll brothers, who also work here in Nicaragua. Thus, we are very pleased to have represented and defended the interests of the Nicaraguan people in Peru. We can tell the Nicaraguan people that the solidarity in Peru is both guaranteed and confirmed. I will answer any questions you may have and subsequently, Compañero Aldo Diaz will read the joint communique issued in Peru.

[Talavera] Maria Luisa Talavera of BARRICADA. As for solidarity, what has the response been to the latest measures taken by the Nicaraguan revolutionary Government in the search for peace within the framework of the proposals made to the Contadora Group?

[Ortega] This is clearly stated in the joint communique that will be read afterward. We can say that there was a good response to that.

[Unidentified reporter] Good evening, Commander Ortega. Yesterday, LA PRENSA talked about a communique issued by the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board in which it maintained that to solve domestic problems the Government of National Reconstruction and the FSLN must talk with those who are in arms, in an effort to prevent bloodshed. It was clearly referring to the counterrevolutionary groups.

[Ortega] I believe that, first, the Coordinating Board is using the freedom that exists in this country by making this statement as a group and by using the media here. This in itself confirms that the revolution wants to preserve such freedom. As for its statement, it has made a proposal that reveals that its members are not looking at the facts and at our national interests, because they are ignoring the fact that what they are talking about are artificial forces that have been nurtured by the current U.S. Administration through the CIA. Therefore, the gentlemen of the Coordinating Board are looking at the problem incorrectly. They are using very poor glasses to view this problem.

[Martinez] Filadelfo Martinez of ACAN-EFE. Commander, 24 hours before your government explains how the 1985 elections will be held, what is your evaluation of the country's military situation? This is one question, and now another: When you returned from a tour of Contadora Group countries, you said here that you had received the promise of those countries' leaders that they would make extraordinary political efforts to prevent U.S. aggression against Nicaragua. In this visit to Peru, did you obtain a similar promise?

[Ortega] Peru has been making efforts in this direction. It has expressed opposition to intervention and has advocated negotiated political solutions at international forums.

The respect inherent in President Belaunde Terry's decision to receive us officially and to give us all kinds of support and attention during our visits gives even more strength to this peace effort. He listened to our concerns and told us that he would also make efforts to strengthen negotiations and to oppose an act of intervention. As for the military situation, the Nicaraguan people are becoming increasingly organized and are prepared to face any eventual U.S. military intervention. The U.S. military deployment in the region, particularly around Nicaragua, has not changed. The U.S. troops, warships, and planes are still there, threatening the integrity of the Nicaraguan nation. This is causing the military situation to remain tense and is forcing Nicaragua to remain on the alert so as not to be caught by surprise in the event of a direct U.S. action, or an indirect one undertaken through the Honduran Army.

[Unidentified reporter] After the amnesty was granted Miskitos (?or the counter-revolutionaries in the north), is the Nicaraguan Government willing to make more concessions to other counterrevolutionary groups, such as ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] or the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] You are forcing me to say that the government is making concessions to no one. The revolutionary government is only being consistent with its previous positions, postulates, and policies. The amnesty for Miskitos, as was explained by Cordova Rivas the day the decree was released, was something we were working on for some time. It had been requested by the Commission for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights, the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, the Pro-Peace Committee of the North Atlantic Region Association, and various religious groups. The Nicaraguan Government had agreed to do this several months ago and had asked for some time. We even set December as a deadline to provide amnesty to the Miskitos. We are only being consistent with our policy.

Havana on Ortega's Peru Visit

PA041354 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] One of the most important results of my visit to Peru is having had more direct contacts with the Peruvian Government, which will permit its continued solidarity with Nicaragua and rallying for a peaceful solution to the Central America conflict, said the coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, Daniel Ortega. At a news conference in Lima shortly before ending his visit to Peru, Ortega said that the solidarity shown by the Peruvian Government and people is based on the fact that both peoples have a common enemy.

After denying rumors about the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist collaborators from Nicaragua, Ortega noted that there are collaborators from many nations in his country, including the United States, and explained that the issue under discussion in Central America is foreign military advisers. Ortega added that Nicaragua has reiterated its willingness to have all military advisers leave Central America and to freeze the supply of arms in the area. He explained, however, that his government cannot do this unilaterally, as there must be a commitment on the part of all Central American governments to agree not to permit foreign military bases or troops in the area.

In another part of his news conference, the Sandinist leader noted that Nicaragua is being subjected to political, military, and economic aggression encouraged by the United States, which has already cost over 700 Nicaraguan lives this year alone and losses of approximately $100 million. He added that the Nicaraguan people are preparing to hold off the aggression and defeat the United States should it invade the country.

CORDOVA RIVAS ADDRESSES RALLY AT NONALIGNED PLAZA

PA021203 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2356 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Speech by Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, at a rally at the Nonaligned Plaza in Managua on 1 December -- live]

[Text] Companeros, members of the junta, Daniel Ortega, coordinator; Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez, interior minister; Companero Guerrilla Commander William Ramirez, minister delegated by the Government Junta of National Reconstruction in the special zone of Puerto Cabezas in northern Zelaya; Companero Amado Lopez, president of the National Commission of Information and Protection of Human Rights; Carlos Collado Gallardo, president of the Central American Human Rights Commission; esteemed Bishop Jaime Wilson; (?honored) and esteemed Monsignor Salvador (?Caceres), bishop of northern Zelaya, Catholic; companeros of the board of directors of the [word indistinct] church; companeros, members of the board of directors of the Evangelical Committee for Development Aid, CEPAD; companeros of the Red Cross; companeros of the diplomatic corps; special guests; Miskito companeros who will be liberated; and relatives of the Miskitos:

Our Atlantic coast, where the Miskito settlements are located, has always been a territory characterized by the exploitation of natural resources and the exploitation of people. From 1893 to 1909, the entire Atlantic coast was used for [words indistinct] wood, banana, port exploitation, and other purposes. From 1913 to 1944, 20 mining concessions were made, including that of Dr John Debayle on 23 October 1944, which included Rio Coco, the tributaries of Rio Coco, and the tributaries of the tributaries of Rio Coco, for the exploitation of gold deposits. From 1913 to 1945, 24 mining concession contracts were negotiated, and 20 contracts for wood were negotiated in one year -- 1951. The United Fruit Company contract covered the northern part of our Atlantic coast, which had been exploited for the construction of a railroad that was to begin in Puerto Cabezas and extend 86 km, ending at the border line.

United Fruit virtually left the Atlantic coast bare of pine trees; it later had to implement plans to recover the pine forests. Thus, the Atlantic coast has always been an area characterized by unjust exploitation of man and natural resources. The exploitation by the United Fruit Company went so far that when the forests were cut down, and the banana crop (?deteriorated), the company dismantled the railroad, taking progress with it.

All the political parties in the country's history initially included in their programs the goal of incorporation of the Atlantic coast into the national life. The [words indistinct] of the exploitation of the Miskitos [words indistinct] the respect for their customs, their language, and their [word indistinct], but it was the FSLN that, in its historic program initiated in 1979, clearly established, in Chapter 6, that the Sandinist people's revolution will put into practice a special plan to benefit the Atlantic coast, which has been subjected to the greatest abandonment, in order to incorporate it into the national life:

A. It will end the unjust exploitation that the Atlantic coast has suffered throughout its history, caused by the foreign monopolies, and in particular, by Yankee imperialism.

B. It will develop suitable land in the zone for the development of agriculture and cattle breeding.

C. It will take advantage of favorable conditions to promote the development of the fishing and forestry industries.

D. It will stimulate the development of the cultural values of the region, which have their origin in the unique aspects of its historical tradition.

E. It will abolish the hateful discrimination to which the Miskito and Sumu Indians [words indistinct] and blacks in the region have been subjected.

We are putting Chapter 6 of the historic FSLN program into practice, as well as the articles approved by the Government Junta on including the economic area [words indistinct] of the development of the Atlantic. The chapter states that the Atlantic coast population will be integrated into the development of the country. For this, a coordinated joint action will be initiated with the proper state entities. Centers for services will be established in strategic places in the region. These centers, in coordination with agrarian reform, will provide health, education, technical assistance, financing, and marketing services.

During his visit to the Siuna mines in October 1979, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Government Junta, proclaimed the nationalization of mining sector, and decree No 137, thus ending the hateful foreign exploitation, which has only bequethed the country, as I have said several times, a hole in the hand, and a hole in the miners' lungs. The law nationalizing these natural resources ended other immoderate domestic and foreign exploitation, such as exploitation of the forests, fishing wild animals, and other resources, thus demonstrating the FSLN's concern for executing these articles in its historical program.

The public expenditures of the Sandinist People's Revolution on the Atlantic coast, mainly to cover the needs of the Miskito community, have been greater than those of all the previous administrations between 1893 and 1979. From 1979 to the present, the revolutionary government has authorized investment programs for more than 809.3 billion [currency not specified] on the Atlantic coast. The total amount invested between the programs already completed and those in the process of being completed is more than 4,541,000,000 cordobas for 71 programs. [all figures as heard]

Of the programs completed and in the process of being completed, we should mention the following: The literacy campaign, the Tasba Pri integral development program, the Rio Blanco-Siuna road, the Guaslala-Suna road, the reconstruction of the Puerto Cabezas airport, the construction of the Bluefields airport, the Bluefields hospital, the Matagalpa-Puerto Cabezas communications network, the program for a deep-water port in El Bluff, the program to reactivate the fishing industry in Nicaragua which includes three of the four companies on the Atlantic coast, the northwestern forestry program, the Oscar Benavides forestry program, the Nicaragua forestry program, the Marco Antonio Somarriba refinery, the refinery on the Atlantic Coast, the plywood factory in Bluefields, the African palm program, and the reactivation of the Siuma, Bonanza, and Rosita mines.

All these investment programs were being developed satisfactorily until the current U.S. Administration came into power. Since then, the social, political, and economic situation has changed. Imperialist agents began to influence the Miskitos from the coast, so that they would oppose the concern for progress and the closer ties of the revolutionary government with the Miskitos. This fatal change brought death, disrespect for authority, and frustration. Opportunists and persons of dubious reputation encouraged the exodus of Miskitos. This ended in a mass exodus into Honduras of the Miskito population, especially of the men who could serve as cannon fodder.

In 1979, the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, represented by Companero Daniel Ortega, was here to make clear the importance that the FSLN gives to the Atlantic region and the Miskito ethnic group.

Based on 8 March 1978 and 14 March 1979 recommendations from the UN Human Rights Commission, which promotes and establishes guidelines for national institutions in charge of promoting and protecting human rights, and based on a note from the secretary general of the United Nations, the UN Human Rights Commission recommended the creation of Miskito settlements such as Tasba Pri, including Tasba, (Limona), (Chimilila), (Columbo), (Cupla) and others.

We recall here with pride the project carried out at the initiative of Leonte Herdocia, who is remembered with admiration because of his loyalty to the Sandinist Revolutionary Government and Sandinism, and because of his struggle in defense of the Miskitos so they would not be robbed, tortured, and killed by counterrevolutionary bands operating in the country's north.

He promoted Miksito settlements so the people could have homes, education, health services, vegetable gardens, etc.

We must mention here the wonderful work carried out by Commander William Ramirez and his enthusiastic team of revolutionaries who have completely identified themselves with the lives, concerns, and hopes of the Miskitos. They have fought to implement the FSLN proposals listed in Chapter 6 of the Historic Program, and they have repeatedly risked their lives, backing their principles with deeds.

We also want to acknowledge the work of the Moravians, Catholics, and other evangelists who have worked with us in support of the Miskito and other ethnic groups in the coastal region. Theirs has been a praiseworthy effort that the junta and the revolution appreciate.

The national penitentiary system of the past was a shame for a sovereign country. That system inspired such books as Pedro Joaquin Chamorro's "The Bloody Lineage." That system served as the framework for torturing and killing [passage indistinct] the new interior minister, whose deeply humane policy has earned the admiration of the whole world, especially because of the so-called open farm system. On these farms, as everyone knows, the inmates' only guards are the trust that the revolution has in human beings.

These projects of Commander Tomas Borge have served as models for other nations. Many visitors who come to Nicaragua are awed by the advances made and the trust developed by free Miskitos who work on one of these farms, which deserves praise.

Now the Government Junta and the FSLN Directorate -- once again making clear their political strength and humanism and the strength of the revolution -- have decided to free Nicaraguans of Miskito origin and other Nicaraguans from December 1981 up to now. [sentence as heard]

With this gesture, we are strengthening a reunification process in this part of the country. We are promoting nationaly unity to promote reconstruction and peace in Nicaragua.

This is why those who serve as tools of the U.S. warmongering policy and have spilled blood in the freed fatherland of Sandino, Rigoberto, and Carlos Fonseca are being isolated. The traitors are being left alone.

The companero Miskitos are hereby released. Let it be known that they will receive the support of the Government Junta and the FSLN National Directorate, and that this support will not only be directed at satisfying their humble request for assistance to the musical group [as heard], but to assist them with everything related to their language, families, customs, and way of life.

When they get organized, when they get together -- starting with the rank and file, as Companera Minerva said -- and are able to present a strong and revolutionary organization, they will have one representative in the State Council.

Viva national unity, viva the Nicaraguans of Miskito origin, viva the revolution. Free fatherland!

Havana Notes Amnesty for Miskitos

PA022032 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government has decreed an amnesty for all Nicaraguan citizens of Miskito origin who committed crimes against public order and security in the last 2 years. The decree noted that the measure benefits Nicaraguan Miskitos who have been sentenced or detained, as well as those who are free, either here or abroad.

U.S. CITIZENS DEMONSTRATE IN FRONT OF EMBASSY

PA030230 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] A group of U.S. citizens began a vigil early this morning in front of the U.S. Embassy in Managua. Besides making appeals for peace, they also condemned Reagan's decision to deny Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge entry to the United States.

CANADIAN EVACUATION PLAN CALLED PROVOCATION

PA021938 Managua Radio Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Montreal, Canada -- A Canadian Government plan to evacuate its citizens living in Nicaragua through the U.S. Embassy in Managua has been described in Montreal as a provocation against Nicaragua and a humiliation for Canada. According to the "As It Happens" radio program of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the plan was drafted without consulting the Canadians living in Nicaragua, most of whom have reiterated that they want to stay in Nicaragua and that their lives are not in danger.

Canada gave U.S. authorities a complete list of the Canadians in Nicaragua and asked the U.S. Embassy to notify them that they will be evacuated through that embassy, the report added. Canadian commentators have said that the United States has decided to invade Nicaragua and that it is taking concrete steps as part of a psychological war aimed at creating anxiety among the foreigners living in Nicaragua.

DELEGATION TO OBSERVE VENEZUELAN ELECTIONS

PA030310 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] A special delegation of the Nicaraguan Government is leaving today for Venezuela to observe the 4 December elections, in which four candidates are running for the presidency of the republic. The delegation is headed by Cesar Delgadillo, member of the People's Social Christian Party and the patriotic Front of the Revolution. The other members of the delegation are: Raul Guerra, director of the FSLN International Affairs Department; Curro Rodriguez, a Foreign Ministry official; and Gavira Centeno, a member of the State Council.

OPPOSITION ALLIANCE SEEKS END TO CENSORSHIP

PA040319 Paris AFP in Spanish 1444 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Managua, 2 Dec (AFP) -- The Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board will no longer engage in dialogue with the Sandinist government until the press censorship, which has been in effect since March 1982, is lifted. In a communique that was released on Friday, the opposition alliance announced that it "will refuse to participate in new meetings or in dialogue with representatives of the Sandinist regime as long as it does not reestablish and respect full freedom of the press for all media." Press circles believe that the position taken by the coordinating board will create an obstacle "in the political opening" initiated by the FSLN in November.

FDN LEADER COMMENTS ON DIALOGUE WITH REGIME

PA041507 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Dec 83 p 1

[Report by Vladimir Sandoval]

[Text] The Nicaraguan rebel forces -- the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) and the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) -- which group various anti-Sandinist organizations, are willing to hold talks with the Sandinist government in order to reach an agreement based on Nicaragua's democratization and compliance with the original principles of the Sandinist Revolution. This was announced yesterday by FDN President Adolfo Calero Portocarrero in a statement for LA PRENSA. Calero added that as a condition for talks the Sandinist government would comply with the resolution signed at the 17th OAS foreign ministers meeting on 23 June 1979, which they have so far ignored. "Although they have closed the doors to a civic dialogue, we would like to give them another opportunity to reach a peaceful understanding. Since Ambassador Richard Stone managed to arrange talks between the Salvadoran guerrillas and the Salvadoran Government, we thought maybe he could do the same thing in Nicaragua.

Adolfo Calero said that other conditions that would be demanded of the Sandinist government would be the release of political prisoners -- estimated at 4,000 -- guarantees for political parties to organize free and democratic elections throughout the country under a system to be supervised by delegates from seven countries, and the withdrawal of all foreign advisers, estimated at 12,000, 10,000 of which are Cuban.

Calero added that an agreement was reached at the meeting between Stone and five anti-Sandinist guerrilla groups, since he accepted the request to attempt to facilitate talks with the Sandinist government. It will now be up to the Sandinists to decide if these talks will be held.

"The Nicaraguan Government has replied, through [Foreign Minister] Miguel D'Escoto, without even meeting with Senator Stone. We regret this hasty decision. We are not sure if this was a decision by the foreign minister, the Government Junta, or the nine commanders, since it is not clear who represents the Nicaraguan Government. Nevertheless, we still think it is possible for the Sandinist government to issue an official statement."

The FDN president said he does not think the organic unification of all guerrilla forces is necessary, since each one can continue having its own identity, independence, and ideology, while respecting pluralism as required and subsequently becoming political parties with their own platforms to participate in free and democratic elections.

HAVANA REPORTS CASTRO'S 2D MESSAGE TO BETANCUR

PA022010 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Cuban leader Fidel Castro has told Colombian President Belisario Betancur that the style of language used by the kidnappers of his brother, Jaime Betancur, is not that of the varied revolutionary organizations that have emerged in the last 25 years.

In a second note to the Colombian president, Castro refers to a message released by the kidnappers, stressing his suspicion that the document in question might be fake or that other elements may be involved in or influencing these developments. According to the Cuban president, no revolutionary group openly expresses support for the Cuban revolution's views. This message is even stranger coming as it does in the wake of strong criticism by our country.

Castro asserts in his message to Betancur that Cuba is not honored and could never feel honored by the support of those who carry out such actions, devoid of all ethics and of the most elemental political sense.

The Cuban leader then warns of the possibility that other forces with other motivations might be influencing these developments, either directly or indirectly, through their infiltration of some organization regarding itself as revolutionary.

Castro stresses that these developments may conceal a large-scale provocation against the policy of peace, independence, and dignity adopted by Colombia under Betancur's presidency. Examples of this policy are this country's joining the Nonaligned Movement, its outstanding participation in the Contadora Group, and its stand and efforts in the wake of the invasion of Grenada.

The message adds that this possibility is to be denounced and warned against for its truly reactionary and negative nature, both for Colombia and the progressive and revolutionary movement of Latin America and the Caribbean. For our part, Castro asserts, we are currently doing and will continue to do anything within our means, through all our channels, on behalf of the life and integrity of your brother, Jaime Betancur.

Finally, the leader of the Cuban revolution states that his revolutionary appeal can reach only those who are inspired by just ideas and principles and that he does not hesitate to assume the historic responsibility of asking the perpetrators of this kidnapping to make amends, as this would not dishonor them but on the contrary might even exalt them.

Fidel's message to Betancur concluded by saying that it would be truly irreparable to carry this error to its final consequence.

CASTRO, BRAZILIAN LEGISLATORS DISCUSS RELATIONS

FL031452 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has held talks with a group of 15 members of the Brazilian congress who were visiting our country.

The meeting between our leader and the visitors was held in the Cubanacan Protocol Hall during a farewell cocktail party given for the Brazilian legislators by the National Assembly of the People's Government.

During their conversation, Fidel gave numerous examples of Cuban progress in public health and education, and answered questions asked by members of the Brazilian delegation. Also discussed were matters dealing with the supply of goods to the people and the role played by rationing in achieving a just distribution of consumer goods, with the result that today we have an additional line of higher priced products which contribute to the subsidizing of rationed products.

Fidel asked about different aspects of Brazilian economic and social development and the Brazilian standard of living. When he was asked about Cuban-Brazilian relations, the commander in chief said that we have good relations with the rest of the world and that, although we would like to have good relations with Brazil also, this is not up to Cuba. On this subject, the top leader of the Cuban revolution stated that such relations would be good for Brazil, Cuba, and Latin America because -- he said -- we have similar reasons to struggle; for example, unequal trade balances.

Fidel spoke on other topics of Cuban life, including U.S. threats of aggression, stating that the defense of the homeland is not only a job for an army but rather for an entire people.

FAR FOUNDING, GRANMA LANDING COMMEMORATED

FL021645 [Editorial Report] Havana Domestic Service in Spanish at 1355 GMT on 2 December broadcast live the ceremony commemorating the 27th anniversary of the Granma landing and of the founding of the FAR. The ceremony was held on the parade ground of the General Maximo Gomez FAR Military Academy.

The announcer provided the pertinent historical background while giving a running commentary of the activities taking place on the parade ground. He announced the groups that would participate in the ceremony, which included students from the Antonio Maceo Inter-Service School, the Camilo Cienfuegos Artillery School, the Technical-Military Institute, and the Naval Academy.

The announcer then indicated that the reviewing stand was full of FAR personnel and guests, with more guests still arriving, including the brigade of Polish youth. He then announced that the presiding officials were arriving, but he did not identify them.

AT 1404 GMT, the announcer began a running commentary of the military activities that were taking place and stated that Brigadier General Manuel Fernandez Falcon, director of the FAR Academy, was the reviewing officer.

Division General Rogelio Acevedo Gonzalez, deputy FAR minister, began his address at 1412 GMT. During this 12-minute speech, Fernandez Falcon referred to the historical events of 27 years ago. He cited the progress and the achivements of the FAR during this period, and condemned imperialism and the United States, while lauding the USSR for its stand on the European missile situation. He then briefly mentioned Grenada and the situation in Central America, and concluded by citing Cuba's decision to fight to the end against imperialism anywhere in the world.

At 1425 GMT, a 21-gun salute was fired accompanied by the Cuban national anthem.

At 1428 GMT, the announcer indicated that the parade had begun and that FAR Minister Raul Castro and Deputy FAR Minister Division General Rogelio Acevedo were presiding over the ceremony, together with members of the party Politburo, Secretariat and Central Committee members, and FAR officers.

The announcer then provided a running commentary on the parade. Live coverage of the ceremony concluded at 1434 GMT with the parade still in progress.

Ustinov Greets Raul Castro

FL031455 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] USSR Minister of Defense Marshall Dmitriy Ustinov sent a message of greetings to FAR Minister and Army General Raul Castro on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the founding of the FAR. In the text of the message, the deep solidarity of the Soviet people and Army with their Cuban brothers is expressed, and the Cuban FAR is wished great new successes in building socialism and strengthening the country's defensive capability.

AWARDS PRESENTED TO BASTION 83 PARTICIPANTS

FL022156 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2102 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] With the presentation of certificates signed by Fidel, which verify the outstanding participation of a group of workers and leaders in the Bastion 83 military maneuvers [held in June 1983], the process of making these awards got underway on the Isle of Youth.

Miguel Rodriguez, second secretary of the party in that special municipality, pointed out the satisfactory results of the exercises in the different companies, workers' groups, and defense zones.

Later, the members of the Isle of Youth Executive Bureau of the Party presented the certificates to participants and congratulated them on their success.

The awards were presented at the Old Model Prison National Monument.

TV DOCUMENTARY DEPICTS WOMEN IN COMBAT

FL030220 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 0132 GMT on 3 December broadcast a recorded documentary entitled "Roses in Combat." Scenes of what the announcer said was Pinar del Rio Province were shown, as well as a sequence of scenes depicting women working. A male described by the announcer as a veteran of the early revolutionary militia related some of his experiences. Women in uniform were then shown marching, shooting, exercising, and training. Another sequence showed women discussing their patriotism and military zeal.

The announcer said that on 23 September, 33,000 Pinar del Rio women pledged to join the MTT. Women in uniform were then shown prepared to take the oath of office throughout the province. Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Politburo and head of the FMC, was heard giving the oath of office via radio. After the oath was administered, Vilma Espin was shown in uniform, and the program ended at 0149 GMT.

DOMINICA

CHARLES ATTENDS MIAMI CONFERENCE ON CARIBBEAN

'Still Hope' for McIntyre

FL021253 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Dominica Prime Minister Maria Eugenia Charles says there is still hope that Alister McIntyre will take charge of the interim government in Grenada. Prime Minister Charles, in Miami, Florida for a speech last night at the Conference on the Caribbean, said it is likely but not positive, that McIntyre will be able to accept the assignment. It had earlier been announced that the Grenadian economist, who is now a senior official with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, would be unable to head the interim Grenadian Government for reasons of health. Prime Minister Charles says she understands that Mr McIntyre might be sworn in within the next few days, leave for medical treatment, and then return to Grenada.

Meantime, Mrs Charles is indignant over Guyana's retaliation for the Dominican involvement in Grenada. Guyana has cancelled all orders of soap from Dominica and Guyana is refusing to ship rice to Dominica. Mrs Charles calls that a childish way of doing things and says she is not easily going to forget that kind of action. She said she would not be disappointed if Guyana were not included in a restructured Caribbean Community.

Discusses Grenada Action

FL021157 Bridgetown CANA in English 1152 GMT 2 Dec 83

[By Stewart Russell]

[Text] Miami, Dec 2, CANA-REUTER -- Dominica Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, described by a senior U.S. official as "commander-in-chief" of last month's Grenada invasion, said she never even considered asking Britain for help in the operation. "We know we (the Caribbean countries) couldn't do it ourselves," Charles said in a speech last night at the seventh annual Miami conference on the Caribbean. "There would have been a massacre even before we reached the beaches. So we looked for someone who could help us...at no time did I think of inviting the British to take part."

While negotiationg independence from Britain (which came in 1978), Charles said, "I asked about security and the British made it very clear that after you are independent you have to be responsible for your own security. I said to them this is not fair to us... They gave a very British smile and said you voted for independence, and I realised that was the end of the relationship."

Introducing Charles, Langhorne Motley, U.S. State Department assistant secretary for Inter-American Affairs, related how he first met her when she arrived in Washington on the morning of the Grenada invasion. He said she "so overwhelmed President Reagan" that he invited her to join a cabinet meeting. "She was the commander-in-chief of that whole operation," Motley said.

Alluding to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who, despite her generally tough anti-communist stance, refused to back the U.S.-led "rescue operation" in Grenada, Motley said: "Some day they may be calling Mrs Thatcher the Maria Eugenia Charles of Europe."

Charles said she had "never met a head of state who treats me as much as an equal as President Reagan does." She won a standing ovation from business people and officials from the United States and noncommunist Caribbean and Central American nations, here to discuss implementation of Reagan's Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI). The CBI, a trade incentive and tax relief package recently approved by Congress, is intended to spur regional development through private enterprise rather than government aid.

Grenada was invited to send a delegation this year, for the first time since the late Maurice Bishop seized power in 1979. The president of its Chamber of Commerce, Richard Menezes, told journalists Grenada needed about 60 million dollars to revitalize its depressed tourism-based economy and complete its new airport, which Cubans were building until the invasion. Reagan had called the airport a threat to national security, saying it exceeded Grenada's tourism needs and would be used as a base for Cuban and Soviet military aircraft. After meeting with potential U.S. investors including hotel developers yesterday, Menezes said he did not think they would want to invest in Grenada if the airport was not completed.

GRENADA

PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT REVIEWS 34-ITEM AGENDA

FL021733 Bridgetown CANA in English 1445 GMT 2 Dec 83

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 2, CANA -- Grenada's three-week-old provisional government went into the second day of its first formal meeting this morning with a 34-item agenda that includes most of the pressing issues facing the island in the aftermath of its recent political crisis.

Acting Chairman of the interim administration Nicholas Brathwaite said the meeting which began yesterday was looking, among other things, at the island's financial and economic status, the future of its overseas missions, the question of Grenadian students in Cuba and eastern bloc states, and the country's key agricultural sector. Also under consideration are establishment of a media policy and ways to deal with the problems faced by persons dislocated as a result of the October 19 military coup and the U.S.-Caribbean military intervention six days later.

Brathwaite, who spoke with CANA during a break last night, declined to comment on decisions already taken. He said the members took the position that statements would be issued early next week on most of the important decisions coming out of the meeting.

Seven of the nine members appointed by Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon to serve on the interim government are attending the meeting. Grenadian economist Alister McIntyre, named to head the body, is in hospital in Switzerland, and Jamaica-based Dr Allan Kirton is still to arrive from Kingston where he is serving as a permanent secretary to Prime Minister Edward Seaga.

This 133-square-mile island is now returning to normal after the bloody upheaval that saw the Army execution of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and several of his colleagues in a coup that triggered the U.S.-led invasion.

The interim government has been put in place to run the island's affairs until general elections can be held some time next year.

Appoints Foreigners to Police Posts

FLO21642 Bridgetown CANA in English 1553 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 2, CANA -- Grenada has announced the temporary appointment of a number of foreigners to top posts in the island's prisons and police services as the island moves to rebuild its security services following weeks of strife here.

Acting Assistance Commissioner of Police in Barbados Mervyn Holder has replaced Grenadian Pat McLeish as police commissioner, the state-owned Spice Isle Radio announced. It said that Acting Assistant Commissioner of Police in St Lucia George Rock was taking over as deputy police commissioner here.

The post of commissioner of prisons which became vacant when the man holding the post, Justin Roberts, was picked up and detained in the aftermath of the U.S. military operation will be held by Lionel Maloney, acting chief officer of the Barbados prisons service. Randolph York, the assistant superintendent of prisons in St Lucia, has been appointed Grenada's deputy commissioner of prisons. The radio said the appointments would be for one year in the first instance and were made through "the kind cooperation of the Barbados and St Lucian Governments."

Nicholas Brathwaite, acting chairman of the nine-man interim government set up here to return the country to normalcy following the bloody October 19 Army coup and subsequent U.S.-led military intervention, said that McLeish, who is a controversial figure, was not fired from the job but sent on leave. His replacement came less than 48 hours after a mysterious leaflet appeared on the streets of St George's calling on the new authorities to get rid of McLeish because of his close ties with the previous administration.

Leftist Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was executed along with three of his ministerial colleagues and several civilians in the October 19 coup. Bishop himself had come to power in a 1979 revolution that saw the ousting of the Eric Gairy regime.

CARICOM READY TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FLO20259 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The secretary general of the Caribbean Community [Caricom], Roderick Rainford, says that the Caricom secretariat is ready to provide technical assistance to Grenada. Mr Rainford says that all they are waiting for is a formal request.

RED CROSS COMPLAINS ABOUT PRISON CONDITIONS

FLO21225 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] In Caribbean news: In Grenada, International Red Cross officials have complained to Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon about conditions for prisoners at the top security Richmond Hill Prison. The prison holds 47 security detainees arrested since the U.S.-led intervention October 25th, among them former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard and Army Commander General Hudson Austin, who masterminded the coup that toppled Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

The Red Cross officials say they are concerned about the lack of adequate exercise time at the prison and about the heavy presence of armed troops within the prison walls.

The cases of those 47 prisoners will be examined by a tribunal, whose three members were named yesterday by Chief Justice Archibald Nedd. They are magistrate (Lyall St Paul), retired civil servant (Maphis Fletcher), and (Winix Philips), a Methodist lay preacher.

BUSINESSMEN ORGANIZING PRO-U.S. DEMONSTRATION

FL031810 Bridgetown CANA in English 1809 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 3, CANA -- A group of big businessmen in Grenada has begun mobilising support for a public demonstration Wednesday to back the U.S.-led invasion that routed a leftist military junta that had seized power here October 19. One of the chief organisers of the march, who asked not to be named, said it was triggered by continuing international demands for the speedy withdrawal of American troops from the island. "We as Grenadians want them to stay and must demonstrate our desire," said the spokesman for the group, which covers the media, the distributive trades, landowners, and the construction sector.

The organisers say they are banking on getting the business community to shut down on that day to permit any employees who so wish to join in the march through the capital, St George's. The group spokesman said the organisers were also discussing the possibilty of approaching the new authorities on the island to allow government workers time off to take part in the planned show of support for the U.S. and Caribbean forces on the island.

The United States and seven Caribbean states sent troops and policemen to Grenada on October 25 to crush the junta which in the bloody coup six days earlier had executed Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and several of his colleagues and an undetermined number of civilians. The coup was preceded by a bitter power struggle within the then ruling New Jewel Movement.

The organisers contend that foreign countries should not be allowed to decide for the people of Grenada how long United States forces must remain here.

ST LUCIA

CANADA TO INVESTIGATE OIL, GAS POTENTIAL

FL031601 Bridgetown CANA in English 1500 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Dec 3, CANA -- Canada has agreed to help St Lucia investigate its oil and gas potential both on and offshore. Under an agreement signed by the two countries, the state-run Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation will investigate the island's hydrocarbon resources and compile geological and geophysical data in order to study the petroleum potential offshore St Lucia.

The new seismic data will be acquired during the current winter season using a Canadian vessel and equipment. This part of the project will cost 4.4 million dollars (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) and is being financed by Canadian Government aid funds as a grant to St Lucia.

A government statement here said the project is part of a joint aid effort with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank involving a number of complementary and parallel projects including training, technical assistance, and legal advice. The Canadian corporation uses Canadian goods and services to help developing countries explore for oil and gas to reduce their dependence on imported oil supplies. Jamaica, Barbados, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Haiti are other Caribbean countries receiving such assistance from Petro-Canada, the government statement here said.